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PRESENTED AT THE FARM FAMILY LIVING OUTLOOK CONFERENCE-WASHINGTON, D.C. OCTOBER 28 TO NOVEMBER 2, 1935

Miscellaneous Extension
Publication No. 23
January 1936



Bureau of Home Economics, Bureau of Agricultural Economics, and Extension Service, Cooperating

Summaries were reported by Mrs. Helen McKinley, Delaware; Isabelle Thursby, Florida; Willie Vie Dowdy, Georgia; Paulena Nickell, Illinois; Lella Gaddis, Indiana; Fannie Gannon, Iowa; M. Attie Souder, Iowa; Amy Kelly, Kansas; Ellen Le Noir, Louisiana; Margaret McPheeters, Maryland; Mrs. Harriet Haynes, Massachusetts; Julia Pond, Michigan; Ann Beggs, New Hampshire; Mary Mason, New Jersey; Caroline Morton, New York; Lucile Williamson, New York; Grace DeLong, North Dakota; Madonna Fitzgerald, Oklahoma; and Sara E. Coyne, Rhode Island.

^{*}Certain papers are omitted from this summary since they appear in the publication, "Farm Family Living Outlook Charts and Conference Summaries for use with the Agricultural Outlook for 1936", Bureau of Home Economics, United States Department of Agriculture, Washington, D. C.

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Research on Farm-Housing Standards - Maud Wilson, Agricultural Experiment Station, Oregon.

The discussion was confined to the standards which concern the use requirements of farmhouses. Precision in defining use requirements may be a factor in lowering housing costs through the greater use of mass-production methods and through discarding features that have no utilitarian purpose, which are commonly included in house plans.

The determination of what is needed in the way of housing facilities for family life is the special concern of home economists. Many standards concern the family as a group in the setting in which it must earn its livelihood and make a life for itself.

There are needed: Careful estimates of the cost of specific features of a farmhouse in order to be able to balance money costs and time-and-energy costs against human values; the definition of the social-economic groups in the population that are made up of families whose housing needs are similar; the precise description, in terms of dimensions and qualities of materials, of parts of the house and its equipment.

Studies being carried on in cooperation with the Extension Service are: (1) The development of a check list of functions, as an aid in insuring completeness in the functional provisions of a house, and as an index of "best ways" of handling specific planning problems; and (2) a study of the major sectional differences in housing needs of farm families.

Data on storage requirements are being used as the basis for designs for cabinets and closets, with the object of developing types that are widely useful.

Extension agents can develop a list of desirable features for the farmhouses of a particular section by making it the subject of discussion at community group meetings, and by recording majority opinions.

Outlook for Improving Farm Dwellings - Samuel P. Lyle, Extension Agricultural Engineer, United States Department of Agriculture.

I. Outlook:

- 1. For two important reasons, outlook for building is good:
 - a. The price of construction material will remain about the same as at present.
 - b. Though cost of labor is somewhat higher, labor will not command union prices in rural sections and will continue in line with production income.

2. Other conditions favorable are:

- a. Influence of the A.A.A. program in bringing in cash income.
- b. Improved conditions in family attitude. Families have a feeling of assurance and will plan to use money for improvements, in contrast to the hesitancy noted in past 3 years.

c. Publicity given to the electrification project will turn attention to housing in connection with this program.

II. Challenge to Extension Workers:

A report of a housing summary over a period of 10 years shows that only 2 percent of the housing construction was influenced by the Extension Service. Therefore, Extension should increase the number of contacts to get increased acceptance of its housing plans. Three positive assertions were made; namely, (1) a continuing increase in home improvement work is expected in 1936, (2) extension recommendations influence only a small percentage of the home improvement construction which has been done up to date, and (3) experience indicates that we can extend our influence only through enlisting the cooperation of the men to whom the farmers come to purchase home-improvement materials and services.

The Social Security Program and the Farm Family - Katherine Lenroot, Chief, Children's Bureau.

The organization of the social security program was discussed briefly.

The program provides for the utilization and development of the health and welfare resources of different localities and the development of safe-guards against hazards of life, such as unemployment and old age.

The Federal enactment will not change greatly the situation in regard to laws in most of the States as they are already on the statute books, but States will need appropriations to carry out provisions of the act.

The effort of the Children's Bureau will be directed toward rural areas, for health centers and maternal care. It would seem that the efforts of the home economics extension staff in the States could assist in promoting this program by cooperating with local agencies in understanding the provision of the act and having extension groups take their share of the responsibility to see that the needed personnel is provided to carry on the work.

The nutritional aspects of the maternal and child health program were mentioned, and it would appear that home economists have a further responsibility in providing information on all phases of home life that

materially affect family life, such as home management, clothing, home furnishings, parental education, and community welfare activities.

A Program for Rural Health - C. E. Waller, Assistant Surgeon General, Bureau of the Public Health Service.

The Social Security Act was discussed in relation to public health. The terms of the act and the methods of securing Federal aid were carefully outlined. As they cannot be stated accurately from notes taken, it is suggested that each State home economics department obtain this information from its own State public health department.

The aims of the act are to strengthen State health departments, to aid local authorities in establishing local health centers, and the training of personnel for county health units.

As no one group would be more greatly benefited by this act than the farm group, home extension agents can cooperate by informing their extension groups of the provisions of the act, and by seeing that reliable information is furnished them regarding the operation of the act in their State.

<u>Developments in Homemaking Education</u> - Susan M. Burson, Agent for Home Economics Education Service, Office of Education, Department of the Interior.

Present trends in homemaking education through the public schools on the older youth and adult levels are in the direction of: (1) Simple surveys of local communities and groups as a basis for planning courses and directing persons to needed courses or units in home and family life; (2) the use of advisory committees to assist the teacher in planning her work and in the dissemination of information in regard to the program of homemaking education; (3) increased opportunities for more adequate training to meet the increased demand for teachers of adult homemaking; (4) emphasis on the breadth of the program to include management and relationship as well as the material phases of homemaking; (5) homemaking instruction for men and boys; (6) instruction for out-of-school youth; (7) efforts toward cooperation with other agencies dealing with home and family life; and (8) training for wage-earning occupations related to homemaking, particularly household employment.

The Youth Administration - Its Significance for Farm Youth - Thelma McKelvey, Secretary, Advisory Committee, National Youth Administration.

The work of the National Youth Administration deserves careful consideration by all those in attendance at this conference. Undoubtedly the home economics extension departments must assume part of the responsibility

of seeing that the large number of rural youth on relief between the ages of 16 and 25 have their share of attention, and assist them to find their place in society and establish permanent homes. Through local leadership that has been developed in all women's groups, it should not be difficult to increase this leadership to include some of these young people.

Groups for discussion of phases of homemaking and demonstrations of homemaking technics and community recreational and development projects can be sponsored by already existing extension organizations.

As extension work is conducted on a county and community basis it should not be difficult to locate and render assistance to these young people. State committees of the Youth Administration would be strengthened if some women acquainted with extension activities were included in the committee.

Farm-Family Expenditures - Hazel K. Stiebeling, Bureau of Home Economics.

Of the materials and charts presented as a basis for the Outlook for Improved Farm Family Living for 1936, during this session the group discussion centered largely around the chair, presenting the distribution of year's income as follows:

- 1. The difference between income for farm family <u>use</u> and farm family <u>living</u>: The amount for farm family use increased in 1935 over 1934 and probably will increase more in 1936. The actual use to be made of the increase, that is, whether it goes into farm family living or farm production, is a family decision. It is probable that because of the experience with debts through the depression years, the farm family will continue to be slow in assuming large increased farm production costs, so there probably will be an increased amount for farm family living in 1936.
- 2. The advisability of using detailed charts for presentation of materials for farm women: Decision was made that such charts can be used with careful explanations.
- 3. The source of data for such charts: Miss Stiebeling reported an interdepartmental committee working on a form for use in getting uniform and accurate data on foods used in farm family living both by States and regions, such a form to be used by farm women in keeping records under the direction of extension specialists.
- 4. What value should be given to food used retail or farm price? The results of the discussion showed great variation in practices in States due to difference in use made of data. Suggestions were made that both retail and farm price be computed in order to give uniformity for all uses.
- 5. Farm family food-production planning: Miss Dowdy presented Georgia's detailed program for planning food production for both farm and

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home, as part of the home improvement in that State. (Forms were distributed.) She pointed out that the planning had gone forward more rapidly and successfully in the State because of the cooperation of country banks in requiring such a plan before credit would be given.

How Can the Farm Homemaker Use Her Time Most Effectively? - Questions the Homemaker Should Consider - Lita Bane, Collaborator in Parent Education, United States Department of Agriculture.

Farm homemakers, like everyone else, are undoubtedly asking some old, old questions. One of the first is how important is money? In this age of contradictions the recent years have pointed out both the tragic importance of money, and its relative unimportance.

Probably Dr. Brunner has expressed reasonable middle ground. "For we know now, beyond a doubt, that a rich cultural, recreational, and social life comes not by economic well-being alone, though it comes not wholly without it. We know, too, the deeper and stronger the cultural life the more the edge of economic adversity is tempered."

How important is work? Is hard work the virtue that we once thought it to be? How important is recreation and what is it? How much of it should we have? Is it more important than we used to believe it to be?

Is it true that the advancement of a people depends upon their interest in abstractions like justice, the rights of the common man? Are there important things to be accomplished through cooperative effort?

Could the health and social problems piling up costs in dollars be reduced by more intelligent homemaking? Is it important that nervous disorders are so prevalent? Can the homemaker do anything about it?

And at times the farm homemaker undoubtedly asks herself whether her days are always to be filled with cooking three meals a day, sewing, washing, ironing, cleaning, making beds? Is this to be all? Is it true that our greatest chance for happiness lies in human relationships largely in the family? If it is, are there ways of improving them? Who can be looked to for help? Will the extension people help? What are the values of life and what is their relative importance?

Use of the Homemaker's Time in Increasing the Farm Income - A Home Management Viewpoint - Fra Clark, Extension Economist, Home Management, Missouri.

Records, especially those of result demonstrations, help greatly in predicting the probable cost of living for any particular family, and may be used as examples in management at extension meetings. Homemakers must decide what extra money will be needed and what will give the best returns for time and effort. Planning the use of time with older children should be included.

Use of the Homemaker's Time in Increasing the Farm Income - A Farm Management Viewpoint - V. R. Wertz, Extension Economist, Ohio.

Men and women have the same goal in farm and home management. It is, therefore, sensible and "professional" to study management problems at joint meetings. There is need of mutual understanding of the needs and costs of farm and home between husband and wife.

Woman's economic contribution has always been large. Whether the farm woman engages in roadside marketing, gardening, poultry raising, etc., depends upon other demands that are made upon her time and energy.

<u>Use of the Homemaker's Time in Home Industries</u> - Bess Edwards, Assistant State Home Demonstration Agent, Texas.

In Texas, women earn extra money by making rugs, baking, and special canning (and from dairy and poultry products). A number of excellent examples were given.

Some of the values are the satisfaction in creating something beautiful, study of design, contact with customers, and teaching others.

<u>Problems of Marketing Handicraft Articles</u> - Bertha Nienburg, Assistant Director, Women's Bureau, Department of Labor.

There is danger that farm women's work may be exploited by commercial interests in money paid for handicraft products. Rural women need protection.

The solution is to encourage collective buying of materials and collective marketing. Piecework in homes should be discouraged. What begins as spare-time activity may develop into full-time work at sweat-shop wages.

Use of the Homemaker's Leisure Time - Ella Gardner, Recreation Specialist, United States Department of Agriculture.

Extension workers should encourage an appreciation of leisure and create the feeling that no apologies are necessary when one takes leisure. Nature study, hobbies, community recreation, have value in unifying the family group.

The New NRA Program for Consumers - Walton Hamilton, Director, Consumers' Advisory Board, National Recovery Administration.

Mr. Hamilton discussed ways by which the Consumers' Division of

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the National Recovery Administration hopes to better the position of the consumer in this present highly economic and industrial system of production. This council will:

- 1. Act in an advisory position to the Government in safeguarding interests of the consumer.
- 2. Inquire into the following factors:
 - a. What will constitute an adequate standard of living?
 - b. How people now live.
 - c. Why sufficient goods and services are not available at a reasonable price, and how to get them.

It will attempt this last inquiry by considering such questions as, (1) Is there a free flow of commodities into the market? (2) How can one tell whether a price is too low or too high for a given commodity or service? Illustrations were given of the effects of:

- a. Monopolistic control, in leasing machinery for shoemaking.
- b. Patents.
- c. Retarded inventions and discoveries in plumbing industries.
- d. Overcapitalization.
- e. Advertising and selling practices; for example, on price of automobiles.
- f. Financial instability and short life of an industry, as in woman's dress industry.
- g. Overduplication.
- 3. Stimulate activity of county consumers! councils; publish "The Consumer", a monthly magazine; and furnish speakers on the new N.R.A. program for consumers.

The 1936 Plans of the Consumers' Counsel - D. E. Montgomery, Consumers' Counsel, Agricultural Adjustment Administration.

The responsibility of the Consumers' Counsel is twofold:

- 1. Safeguarding the interests of the consumer in all the agricultural adjustment acts.
- 2. Publishing the "Consumers' Guide."

Dr. Montgomery discussed various methods that would be followed in carrying out these plans.

1. A representative of Consumers! Counsel to appear at all hearings of A.A.A. to aid in formulating and

executing an adjustment production program in agriculture in which the consumer need not face any scarcity of food or textile supplies. Dr. Montgomery stressed the great need for more representatives of the consumers themselves and the development of a consumer pressure group.

- 2. Space in Consumers' Guide to be given to short and long range adjustment programs and to consideration of building adequate consumer standards into these programs, the aim being to assure the consumer of a sufficient supply at fair prices.
- 3. Possible alternative methods of safeguarding consumers, such as collective bargaining, antitrust laws, and regulatory legislation were mentioned. Under the latter, specific standards can be set up within the law to protect the consumer.

In discussions following the talks of Dr. Montgomery and Dr. Hamilton the members of the conference expressed desire for more commodity information, price trends, outlook, economic, and social factors which influence the "free flow" of needed goods to the consumer.

Present Status of Proposed Revision of Federal Food and Drug Act - Mrs. Paul Howe, formerly Contact Representative, Food and Drug Administration, United States Department of Agriculture.

Mrs. Howe forcefully emphasized that the success of the proposed changes in the Food and Drug Act's becoming law depended upon consumer pressure.

The inadequacies of the old act are:

- a. No control over advertising.
- b. No legal standard for food except for butter.
- c. No, or insufficient, control over cosmetics.
- d. No, or insufficient, control over dangerous drugs.
- e. Working to compel accuracy in statements on labels.

In the outlook for the passing of the bill she saw strong opposing trends: In New York City an ordinance is pending for licensing cosmetics and patent medicine, which would protect consumer interests. The "Drug Trade Use" (a magazine) announced that 80 to 90 percent of the trade opposed it. The American Federation of Women's Clubs and Women's Joint Congressional Committee of women's organizations are for it.

The proposed bill, which has passed the Senate, is now before the House. Mrs. Howe pointed out that the new bill overcomes the inadequacies of the old act.

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Examples of Effective Methods Used in Disseminating Outlook Information - E. T. Benson, Extension Agricultural Economist, Idaho, and Harriette B. Layton, Assistant State Home Demonstration Agent, South Carolina.

Mr. Benson reported the following: When Idaho representatives return from the national meeting they hold the following meetings:

- 1. Conferences with subject-matter specialists, research workers, and a residence staff to acquaint them with outlook information.
- 2. Training schools for county agents.
- 3. County outlook meetings with leading farm men and women, representatives of cooperatives, and so forth, at which all economic information from survey records and Federal, State, and local sources is given.
- 4. Meetings to train the above leaders to hold community meetings.

 Leaders are furnished with printed reports, charts, and
 so forth, to be used as guides.

Idaho decided outlook reports were not being read by either the agents or farmers, so determined to:

- 1. Send reports in outline form.
- 2. Standardize circular letters, number them, and indicate how to file them.
- 3. Stamp franked envelopes to agents to indicate contents.
- 4. Supply "boiled down" statements to agents and farmer from State office.
- 5. Check up on the effectiveness of methods.

Miss Layton reported: South Carolina used the following methods:

- 1933 Outlook meetings on farm family living were held in every county. Two leaders from each home demonstration club, and "key" men and women were present. The State specialist presented material, and the audience discussed adjustments made.
- 1934 The leaders attending such outlook meetings were trained to hold local community meetings. The sources of materials used were Dr. Stiebeling's material, census report, Federal and State economic information, and material from Washington. Mimeographed material was furnished the home demonstration agent along with samples of charts that agent or leader could make.
- 1935 Outlook material is now presented to every home demonstration club annually by the agent as part of the regular program. Representatives attending the national meeting digest and adapt the material for the home demonstration agent, who digests it and presents it at the local meetings correlated with some such subject matter as "Consumer Problems and Spending of Money."

Training County Extension Agents and Local Leaders in "Economic Background"-Julia O. Newton, State Home Demonstration Leader, Minnesota, and P. E. Johnston, Assistant Chief, Farm Management, Illinois.

Miss Newton reported as follows:

Home demonstration agents are trained at an annual conference and through district meetings with assistance from the Washington office. Materials used are two sets of farm surveys (north and south Minnesota) as guides, monthly publications from the college, outlook material, Consumers! Guide, and so forth.

Local leaders are trained by the specialist and home demonstration agent in a series of four all-day meetings held in consecutive months. These leaders give the information back to the communities and use it to help in deciding on projects, and in solving family situations.

Mr. Johnston reported as follows:

Farm advisers will be trained at annual conference.

New plan to train local leaders: A series of agricultural economics schools will be held at 1-week intervals for 4 weeks. Mimeographed reading assignments of from 25 to 30 pages will be given ahead of time for leader to study. No presentations will be given at the school, but the question-and-answer method will be used. The four topics will be (1) Why Price Changes? (2) Money and Credit, (3) Farmers; interest in Taxation, (4) Farmers; Interest in Foreign Trade. The State specialist will conduct the first and last meetings, and the county agent the second and third. As training is a continuous job, agents and leaders will be supplied with new information through written materials, and more schools will be held when necessary.

Keeping "Up-to-date" on Current Data - Don Anderson, Agricultural Economist, Wisconsin. and P. V. Kepner, Extension Economist, United States Department of Agriculture.

Mr. Anderson reported as follows:

Bring to farmers, at times when they must make decisions, brief statements as to the facts on which these decisions should be based through:
(1) Press and publications, (2) charts, and (1) radio.

The emphasis of such material should be based on background of facts (perhaps some theory) rather than on specific current data as to prices, production, or income.

Mr. Kepner reported as follows:

1. Releases on economic material used by different States were on

display in our exhibit.

- 2. United States Handbook, containing basic charts and supporting information. Frequent releases will keep this up-to-date. (Office clerk should learn to file these.)
- A Demonstration Talk on Farm Family Living Outlook Edna M. Cobb, Home Management Specialist, Maine.

Miss Cobb assumed that those of us here in conference were grange homemakers at a county-wide meeting in Maine, in a dairy community. The meeting was called a Household Buying Conference, rather than an Outlook Meeting.

- 1. Chart material was presented for the 1935 outlook for farm family living in Maine, and the discussion brought out such outlook information as: Extra expenditures in clothing will be needed for outer garments, and prices for home clothing will be about the same.
- 2. Miss Cobb stated that consumer information is beginning to be available, and urged that the women ask for certain consumer facts in buying at their country store.

It was pointed out that home consumption of products would be advisable since they are bringing little on the market, and Miss Cobb gave figures on value of Family Living in Rural Maine homes for 1933-34 in dollars. This was followed by a discussion of the increase in cash expenditures in homes keeping records for 1934 over 1933.

Analysis and Use of Household Account Data - Nell Pickens, Alabama; Gladys E. Stratton, Connecticut; Bonnie V. Goodman, Kansas; and Oona Stautz, Montana.

An analysis and use of household data were discussed by Nell Pickens, representing the Southern Section; Gladys Stratton, Representing the Eastern Section; Bonnie V. Goodman, representing the Central Section; and Oona Stautz, representing the Western Section. The reports indicated that accounts of two kinds were kept, that is, personal accounts and family accounts, the family accounts being for either the farm or the nonfarm family. The periods of time over which accounts have been kept range from one to several years.

Enrollment of household account demonstrators may be made by any extension staff member, but preferably by the county worker who assumes responsibility for the project.

Analysis of data is different in various States. The statistical

analysis is often made by the clerical and statistical staff, whereas the interpretation is handled first in the county by the county worker, then by the home-management specialist who makes the State analysis. In some States the research and teaching staffs have assisted materially with this program.

Method of analysis:

- 1. Check all totals.
- 2. Make summary.
- 3. Record all totals on summary sheet.
- Keep record of each book analyzed and correspondence pertaining thereto.
- 5. Send analysis to cooperator.
- 6. Express all averages in percentage.

Uses of account record and analysis to the family:

- 1. Family cooperation.
- 2. Helps in farm family planning.
- 3. Appreciation of value of home-produced goods.
- 4. Fair distribution among family members.
- 5. Basis for planning expenditures.
- 6. Shows increase in income.

Use of account data to specialist:

- 1. In planning program.
- 2. Assisting in farm-family planning.
- 3. Stimulate other homemakers in account keeping.
- 4. Research:
- 5. Consumer problems.

Information or data helpful to all homemakers to be given through:

- 1. Mimeographed material.
- 2. Meetings.
- 3. News articles.
- 4. Outlook meetings.
- 5. Panel discussions.
- 6. Conferences.
- 7. Consumer buying.

The New United States Department of Agriculture Household Account Book - Ruth Crawford Freeman, Specialist in Home Accounts, Illinois.

Points emphasized regarding book and its use:

1. It is not to replace the account books in the individual States.

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- 2. The book is a tool to be used in planning family expenditures, not a source book of information for the research worker.
- 3. The book is planned so that there may be an easy correlation of home accounts with farm accounts.
- 4. We must think of the book from the standpoint of the person who is to use it, and foresee any points that may be confusing.
- 5. A number of different practices are suggested. Each family will be able to choose the extent to which they wish to proceed in keeping records.

Correlation of Farm and Household Account Books - J. D. Galloway, Agricultural Economist, United States Department of Agriculture.

- Mr. Galloway emphasized the following points:
- 1. An account book never is a finished book.
- 2. An account book should not be for research.
- 3. Fine detail should be avoided.
- 4. Home and farm accounts should not all be in one book.

Two problems are involved:

- a. Efficient making of money.
- b. Efficient spending of money.

Applying the 1936 Outlook - Summary of Discussions by Field Agents

CENTRAL STATES - Grace Frysinger.

In summary it would seem that the outlook reveals:

- 1. Some increase in income in the Central States with the need for farm equipment and stock replacement competing with farm family living for the available cash.
- 2. Farm families will go into debt for farm needs but not for home needs, except for essential replacements.
- 3. Benefit payments have been and will continue to be used for paying taxes and "store" indebtedness, and part payment of doctors' bills.
- 4. Farm women will contribute to the income "in kind", but in general will not partake in additional marketing activities.

- 5. Lack of short-term credit leads rural people to resort to small-loan companies that often demand exorbitant interest rates for needed home improvements or emergencies in the home.
- 6. Credit unions need to be in better repute through being recognized as similar to building and loan companies rather than like small-loan companies.
- 7. Available cash will be used for health services- medical, dental, and optical, and for education.
- 8. Interest in improved housing and electricity is very real, but lack of cash may prevent developments in this field in the immediate future.
- 9. The family food production program will be continued as a means of conserving available cash and for nutritional reasons.
 - 10. Some clothing replacement is essential.
 - 11. There will be increased demand for consumer education information.
- 12. The narrow cash income margin and the AAA requirements have stimulated interest in farm and home accounts and may well be used as a means of arousing interest in family councils for planning family living.
- 13. The Extension Service has an opportunity to enlarge the thinking of farm people beyond their own farms to all farms, to industry, to capital, and to international relationships.

It has the opportunity to make adult education function at its best by providing facts, by indicating the alternative choices which are possible and then to stimulate farm people to analyze facts and determine upon those choices indicated by the use of their own best judgment.

EASTERN STATES - Florence Hall

In discussing the 1936 outlook for farm family living our eastern delegates express their belief that the increased farm income forecast is not sufficiently great to warrant any marked change in our extension program - any extra cash will be absorbed by debts, house repairs, dentistry, and optical care.

Foods.—As regards home production and preservation of food, eastern delegates do not advocate any increased activity, but they believe that these phases of the program should keep to about the same level reached in 1934. Farm women have acquired the habit of larger gardens, and more canning, and realize that their families are better fed by this means. Available cash is thus released for home equipment and other items of living which the farm cannot produce.

The emphasis on a planned year's food supply based on health needs

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provides a golden opportunity to drive home nutrition information which extension workers are reluctant to relinquish. Our eastern representatives questioned the statement, often made by agricultural economists that "as times improve, it is better business for many farm families on specialized farms to buy much of their food rather than raise it." In order to have definite information on this matter, New York has some studies under way.

Clothing. --Extension clothing programs will not change materially in 1936. Figures from annual reports for the past 5 years show an increasing number of people following extension recommendations for construction of clothing.

The increased income forecast for 1936 is not sufficient to indicate any great swing away from the clothing-construction program. The outlook trends in clothing prices will be given out to farm people in order to help them to make clothing purchases advantageously.

Electrification of farm homes.—Eastern delegates are not hopeful of any great expansion while present costs prevail. In general, New England farmers who do not now have electricity are not at all enthusiastic about borrowing money for having power lines extended to their homes. However, extension workers will continue efforts to interest farm families in benefits of electricity by projects on "good use of time" and by studies of good lighting - to bring about an appreciation of the greater convenience, comfort, and saving of eyesight that come with electricity.

Methods of presenting outlook to farm people, used in Eastern States

- 1. Farm and home economic conferences.
- 2. All-day farm-bureau meetings for men and women.
- 3. Poultry, potato, and dairy meetings for men and women.
- 4. Project meetings:
 - a. Business for the home.
 - b. Home accounts.
 - c. Household buying.
- 5. Vermont publishes a four-page leaflet on the outlook; each extension specialist in agriculture and home economics writes a summary about the outlook in his or her phase of work.

Additional methods suggested for presenting farm-family living outlook

- 1. County meetings of delegates from home demonstration groups.
- 2. Radio talks.
- 3. Press releases.

This conference emphasized the need for the "family approach" in any phases of the extension program. Several delegates believe that we need to revive the oldtime county institutes along 1936 lines, of course, with discussions as well as lectures and demonstrations. This would give

an admirable opportunity to present the outlook and other matters of joint interest to farmers and homemakers.

SOUTHERN STATES - Nell Pickens, Home-Management Specialist, Alabama.

Farm-family income

The cash income received from agriculture during 1935 in the South Atlantic States decreased somewhat from the 1934 level.

The outlook for 1936 is for a continuation of the present level, probably with further decreases in some areas.

The receipts for the major portion of cash income derived from the marketing of cotton and tobacco, sales of livestock and other farm products, rental and benefit payments, for the first 7 months of 1935 were 5 percent lower than for the same period in the previous year.

The cash incomes of a small percentage of farm families are being supplemented by earnings of family members employed in nonagricultural industries. Although the actual number of family members earning outside income, and the amount of the income, are relatively unimportant when compared with the total income from agriculture, they may be most important to individual families. In localities where submarginal land does not provide an adequate living, earnings from other sources are especially necessary for family well-being. Many farm families will continue their efforts to increase their cash incomes, even though the returns of labor so spent may be small.

The volume of handicraft articles, dairy products, poultry, eggs, fruits, and vegetables sold through curb markets and roadside stands will increase, and net returns to participants will probably reach a higher figure in 1935 and through 1936.

Use of family income

With less money available for family living in 1935-36 expenditures probably will be distributed unequally among food, clothing, and other living items instead of going to only one or two. Expenditures for food will take a large share of the income, with a major portion going for bread, flour, and cereals, and for meats and fats.

Adjustments in farm-family consumption and expenditures

Ways of spending cash income available for family living will vary, depending in part upon the extent to which expenditures for different items have been cut during depression years. Families that have been unable to replenish their stocks of clothing probably will spend a larger proportion of their cash for this item than will families that have made needed replacements each year. Families whose incomes have provided adequate food and clothing may spend a relatively large share of the cash for

Page 19 January 1936

replacement of household furnishings and for the purchase and upkeep of automobiles.

More families than heretofore are making long-time plans for the use of probable available cash, budgeting funds for both the farm business and for family living. Such budget-making should focus attention upon a consideration of all family needs, in addition to emphasizing financial progress. Financial planning has been stimulated by the increased use of farm and home accounts, promoted by various departmental agencies in Washington and in the field.

Improvements in farm family well-being are indicated by the decrease in the number of farmers on relief, only two-thirds as many having been reported in October 1935 as in the same month of 1934, according to the Rural Research Section of the Federal Emergency Relief Administration. This condition is due in part to increased income from agriculture, although some of the farmers taken from relief rolls may have been given employment on public-works projects, and many have been aided by resettlement and rural-rehabilitation projects.

In most parts of the South, 1935 has been a year of good returns from gardens and orchards. Farm families are canning and storing many more vegetables and fruits than usual this year, except in some sections where drought affected the local growing season. The comparatively high prices prevalent for livestock may induce some families to retain less than the usual supply of meat products for home use, and in consequence, to be somewhat more economical in their consumption, especially of fats.

Buying power of the farm dollar should be expanded by making cash rather than credit purchases and by purchases through farmers' cooperatives where possible. In addition, farm families should be given a better understanding of their problems as consumers by extension workers.

Suggestions for the use of outlook material

The representatives from the Southern States suggested that one of the first things to be done upon their return to the States was the preparation of the farm-family outlook material adapted to the individual States, this material to be placed in the hands of the agents and club leaders, as well as other specialists on the State staffs. The information in the outline should be a basis for club discussions, as supplementary material for demonstrations already prepared, for community gatherings, federated clubs, county councils, and parent-teacher associations. The concensus of opinion was that the economic information contained in the outlook report should be made a part of all major projects in the States.

WESTERN STATES - Madge J. Reese

In the West folks are familiar with lookouts as well as outlooks. A lookout is located so as to give an expansive view of the surrounding country. An outlook gives a review of agricultural and farm living con-

ditions and the general <u>viewpoint</u> regarding future conditions in the light of present knowledge. In addition, suggestions are given as to how the predicted conditions might be met in the best interest of agriculture and farm-family living. Eric Englund, assistant chief, Bureau of Agricultural Economics, very strikingly terms the outlook report as "educated judgment."

General agricultural and farm-home conditions in the West

Quoting the report, Outlook for Farm-Family Living for 1936:

"Western States -- Increased income from livestock is more than offsetting a decline in income from crops in 1935, cash receipts being 12 percent higher in the first 7 months of this year than in the same period in 1934. The increased production of some crops in this area and the higher prices for livestock are favorable to higher incomes in this region during the first 6 months of 1936."

The 12 percent increase in cash receipts is an average and is concentrated largely in five Western States-Idaho, Washington, Oregon, Nevada, and California. The cash receipts the first 7 months of 1935 are reported as less than those over the same period in 1934 in the following States: Montana, Wyoming, New Mexico, and Arizona. Very slight increases can be reported for Colorado and Utah.

A broad ribbon can be drawn down through eastern Montana, Wyoming, Colorado, and New Mexico to mark the severe drought area during 1933 and 1934, and in 1932 in some sections. Nevada and Utah also suffered severe drought in spots. The heaviest rural relief load in the West was in those drought areas.

In 1934 the average total receipts for Western farms was \$2,397 as reported by the July 1935 issue of Crops and Markets. This was higher than reported for other sections of the country. The Agricultural Adjustment Administration benefit payments were included in the receipts. After deducting \$1,503, the average cash farm outlay, \$236 interest, and \$47 for farm improvement, there was left \$611 for living expenses, payment on debts, and home improvement for the Western farms represented in the study. For the whole country the average was \$544, as reported in the same study.

The increase in farm income in the West for 1935 is due largely to increased prices of sheep, beef, dairy products, and the benefit payments due to the wheat, corn and hogs, and sugar-beet agricultural adjustment programs. A much more favorable crop year can be claimed for most sections. General agricultural conditions in the West appear to be on the upgrade, and more favorable conditions are predicted for 1936. Weather and water are powerful factors. Heavy fall snows in some sections promise better water supply for 1936.

The indications of improved farm-family living during 1935 in some sections of the West, reported by extension service workers, are as follows:

January 1936

- 1. Better living in general.
- 2. Not only more but better quality of clothing being bought.
- 3. Neglected dental and medical care given increased attention.
- 4. Sales report shows more electric washing machines bought in Northwest.
- 5. Noticeable number of new or replaced radios in sections where radio reception is good.
- 6. Very few new farm dwellings built, but some activity in building especially noticeable in spots in Northwest.
- 7. New roofs, farm dwellings, and buildings repainted, and many smaller repairs are reported in good numbers from some sections.
- 8. Much larger rural attendance at State agricultural colleges.
- 9. More travel to national parks by rural people in 1935.
- 10. Larger attendance at State fairs and stock shows by rural people.

The average increase in farm income meant for many farm families peace of mind rather than improved living, which, of course is equally important. Delinquent taxes and payments toward mortgages and other debts consumed much of the increased income. Very necessary replacement of farm machinery and automobiles for carrying on the business of the farm also come in for a good share of the increase.

Outlook application to home demonstration and 4-H club programs

There will not be any marked changes in the home demonstration and 4-H club programs in the West because of the present predictions made in The Outlook. Following are some of the more important features which will be emphasized in the programs to meet needs:

- l. The estimated average value of the food produced and used on Western farms in 1953 was \$152; in 1934 it was \$144. As the farm income increases it can be expected that the amount of food produced for home use will decrease in special and farming sections, for example, on the west coast dairy farms and on large cattle ranches in the range sections. However, the continuation of the "live-at-home" program on western farms and ranches can be counted upon as a permanent thrift practice, making possible the release of more income for other needs and wants rather than its being spent for food.
- 2. The agricultural 4-H club projects will be selected to fit into the general agricultural program so that one will reinforce the other.

- 3. Remodeling of clothing will not be emphasized, as everything has been remodeled and worn out again. Better home methods of cleaning and care of clothing will continue. Sewing techniques will always have an important place, especially in 4-H club work. Wise purchasing of materials and readymade clothing will be emphasized.
- 4. Home improvements, both inside and out, which take small expenditures of money will receive increased emphasis. Good building plans for houses and remodeling will be made available where needed.
- 5. Child care and development need attention, income or no income. A child's development does not wait for increased income.
- 6. Organized home and community recreation, and cultural interests will be especially featured. Another social and enlightening feature will be more group-discussion meetings to consider general agricultural interests both with adults and young people. The group-discussion method has long been used in the West in extension program making.
- 7. Agricultural adjustment and rehabilitation programs have stimulated more account keeping in the farm home. Home demonstration workers will try to maintain and stimulate further home-account keeping.
- 8. Optimism and encouragement radiated by extension agents during home visits and at meetings have helped farm women to keep an abiding determination that the home should not be surrendered under any condition. The farmer and the family beset by problems of agricultural adjustment, drought and debts have often had their courage and faith sustained by the wife and mother. Home demonstration workers are not unmindful of the part they can play in keeping up farm-family morale.
- Applying the 1936 Outlook to the 4-H Club Program Gertrude L. Warren, Organization, 4-H Club Work, United States Department of Agriculture.
- I. Importance of youth participation in the Outlook conferences.
 - 1. It will be only a few years until a large number of the club members of today will have farms of their own or be engaged in extension work from a professional standpoint. Whether on the farm or in professional work, they will probably be the leaders in their immediate groups. Therefore it is important that they learn early the advantages of gaining and applying outlook information. Thereby also the future of the Outlook program is assured.
 - 2. The Outlook is closely linked with the Agricultural Adjustment Administration and Land Use programs in which many club members are already interested.

- 3. Even now it is important that young people be guided intelligently in the selection of their agricultural projects from the standpoint of financial returns. For example, it may prove unfortunate to allow young people to purchase livestock at recent high prices.
- 4. Rural young people at as early an age as possible should also learn how to evaluate farm prices, particularly in relation to their own purchase or rental of a farm.
- 5. It is generally believed that 4-H club members are a selected group with a comparatively high grade of intelligence. Therefore the members from 16 to 21 years of age may prove particularly effective in grasping and extending some phases of the Outlook information.
- 6. If the participation of young people is included in the Outlook program, then it will be possible to have wholesome family discussions on what is best from the standpoint of the whole family. Such family discussions, based on sound information and affecting all members, may tend to knit the family closer together.
- 7. Moreover, youth generally brings a wholesome, contagious enthusiasm and optimism to the task of attacking problems of farm-family living.
- II. Methods to be used in gaining the participation of youth.
 - 1. Meetings: It is important that the place of youth in the Outlook program be discussed at national, State, and district outlook conferences. After the more capable rural young people have gained a sufficient amount of outlook information, they may be able to extend it to their own family, club, and community groups. Outlook information, in a simple form, may be included in the State Club News or other similar publications. Outlook information may also be the basis for discussions by 4-H club discussion groups. It may prove particularly profitable to have young people meet with farmer groups when the Outlook is to be discussed. The attention of local leaders should be called to the fact that it is a sound procedure for them to pass on the Outlook information (as it applies to their projects) to the members of their own 4-H club groups.
 - 2. Project applications: In the 4-H farm and home management work, the keeping of farm and personal accounts may be

very definitely linked up with the Outlook program. The making of farm maps with outlines of changes to be made in farming practices may also be closely linked to the Outlook program. Such activities call for a definite business center in the home. The young people can be interested to help build a desk, shelves, etc., that will be looked upon as a very important part of the farm home in family planning.

The work relating to food production on the farm, home and farm repairing, curb markets, home industries, making purchases of clothing, home furnishings and new equipment as well as of livestock, etc., all can be very definitely linked up to the Outlook program. In addition, young people may be led to consider the Outlook information in relation to going to college and establishing homes for themselves. Learning to read economic charts and to interpret economic trends may prove not only very interesting to young people as a part of their 4-H club work but very profitable throughout their whole lives.

Recent Developments in the Field of Credit - Governor W. I. Myers, Farm Credit Administration

Thousands of farmers who were forced to borrow from loan companies charging from 2 to $3\frac{1}{2}$ percent a month are being refinanced in increasing numbers by production credit associations at reasonable rates of interest.

One of the most constructive things the production credit associations have done has been to come to the financial rescue of many of these farmers; practically all of the 560 production credit associations which are now making loans available to farmers throughout the country at the low rate of 5 percent a year have made loans to pay off and refinance the debts of farmers owed to "36 or 42 percent a month companies."

The morale of farm people is better because credit facilities are easier. Farmers are anxious to get rid of debts.

Only through educational opportunities can we make the best use of income and help farm men and women to make adjustments wisely. Our problem is getting an adequate income to buy material of standard quality, understanding better the following: Farm management, marketing, purchasing, and finance.

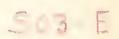
Because of the more favorable prices now it may be a good time for some farmers to go into debt for improving business or living. Land prices are now reasonable. It may be a good time for young people to buy. However, general expansion of farming is not in order now.

U. S. Dept. Agr.

Summary of Replies Received to the

INFORMAL QUESTIONNAIRE SENT TO SELECTED STATES

In Preparation for drafting the REPORT ON 1936 OUTLOOK FOR FARM FAMILY LIVING



1. Home food production:

MAN 14 1835 7

a. How much emphasis has your State extension program placed in 1935 on the production for home use of the following items of the food supply?

States	Vege-	Fruits	Beef	Pork	Lamb	Eggs	Milk	Flour
50000	tables	110105	2001	1 0117		poultry	1/12/22/2	cereals
35 2.		_						
Maine	great "	mod.	great	great	great	great	great	great
New Hampshire		little	little	little	little	little	little	
New Jersey New York	mod.		7:447	!!	7:447.4			little
New TOLK		mod.	little	····	little	mod.	great	710016
Illinois	great	little	mod.	great		great		little
Indiana	great	110016	1100.	mod.	Great	mod.	mod.	mod.
Kansas	11	great	11	11	mod.	11	11100.	great
Kentucky	11	mod.	little	little	little	great	great	little
Minnesota	11	11	110010	TT00TC	110010	11	11	
Missouri		11	mod.	mod.	mod.	mod.	11	little
Nebraska	little							
Ohio	great	great	mod.	mod.	mod.	great	great	great
S. Dakota	11	11	great	great	great	11	11	little
Alabama	great	great	mod.	little	little	mod.	great	mod.
Arkansas	11	mod.	11	great	11	great		
Florida	11	great	great	little	11	11	great	great
Georgia	fi	11	- 11	great	mod.	11	11	!1
N. Carolina	11	mod.	mod.	11	little	11	11	11
0klahoma	11	H	great	и .	mod.	11	mod.	little
Tennessee	11	11	mod.	11	11	11	great	11
Virginia	11	11	great	11	11	11	mod.	great
Louisiana	H	little	mod.	mod.	н	mod.	11	little
Arizona								
Colorado	mod.	little	mod.	mod.	great	great	great	mod.
Montana	great	mod.	great	11	mod.	11	11	great
Oregon	11	great	mod.		11	11	11	mod.
Washington	11	11	11	great	little	11	11	little
Wyoming	11	mod.	11	mod.	mod.	mod.	mod.	mod.
Utah	11	!!	11	11	11	great	great	little
Total surveys	29	29	29	29	29	29	29	29
" great	24	8	7	10	4	18	17	8
moderate	3	13	15	9	11	7	6	5
TICCLE	1	6	3	6	10	2	2	10
No answer	1 1	2	4	4	4	22	4	6

Home food production (cont'd)

b. How much emphasis is likely to be placed in 1936 on the production for home use of these same items of the food supply?

States	Vege- tables	Fruits	Beef	Pork	Lamb	Eggs poultry	Milk	Flour cereals
Maine New Hampshire New Jersey	great "	mod. little	great little	great little	great little	great little	great mod.	great
New York	great	great	little	little	little	mod.	great	little
Illinois Indiana Kansas Kentucky	great " "	mod. great " mod.	mod. "" ""	mod. 11 11	great mod.	great " mod. great	mod. " great	little mod. great little
Minnesota Missouri	11 . 11	11	 mod.	mod.	mod.	mod.	11	 little
Nebraska Ohio S. Dakota	11 11	great	mod. great	mod. great	mod. great	great	great	great little
Alabama Arkansas Florida Georgia N. Carolina Oklahoma Tennessee Virginia Louisiana	great " " " " " " "	great mod. great " mod. " great mod. "	mod. " great " mod. great mod. great mod. great	little great little great " " " " mod.	little " little mod. little mod. " little mod. "	great " " " " " " " mod.	great " " mod. great mod. "	mod great " little " great
Arizona Colorado Montana Oregon Washington Wyoming Utah	great " " " "	 mod. "! "! "!	mod. great mod. " "	mod. " great mod. "	great mod. " little mod. "	great " " mod. great	great " " mod. great	mod. great mod. " " little
Total surveys " great " moderate " little No reply	29 27 0 0 2	29 9 16 1 3	7 15 2 5	9 10 4 6	4 11 8 6	20 5 1 3	17 7 0 5	8 6 8 7



Food shortages in 1935:

What essential foods or groups of foods, if any, will be short in farm homes during the next few months, as a result of poor growing conditions this year or as an aftermath of the 1934 drought?

On the whole, growing conditions in 1935 were favorable for producing vegetables and fruits, except in drought-stricken sections of Montana, Wyoming, Colorado, New Mexico, Texas, Oklahoma, Arkansas, Kansas, Mebraska, and South Dakota. Some parts of Kentucky and Alabama and a few other States suffered from a dry spring or fall, or from early frosts, and gardens in a number of the south central counties in New York-were ravaged by floods in July.

Meat is short in most of the meat-producing States, and high prices due to pork and beef shortage will indirectly affect farm dietaries and farm pocket books, even in non-meat-producing sections.

A few significant comments appear below:

New Hampshire Blueberries, peaches, meat.

New York Fewer tomatoes in some parts due to early cold weather.

Illinois Pork.

Kansas Vegetables and fruits short in Western Kansas. Farmers must

either buy shipped in products or go without.

Kentucky Canned and stored vegetables, canned fruits.

Minnesota Plum and grape crops. Tomatoes in northern counties.

Nebraska Almost no tomatoes. Cabbage, beans, peas, corn short. Pork very

short. Wheat 50-60%, corn 40-45% normal. Good potato crop.

*North Dakota Meat of all kinds, especially pork and lard. No canned meat avail-

able. Some families cannot afford to buy cattle or fresh meat and are going without. Butter or lard substitutes often used instead of lard. Milk supply shorter than usual. Many families buying canned milk. Eggs and poultry less than usual but enough for home use. Fruits: Few are raised and little has been bought

for home canning, on account of expense. (1935 gardens produced

plenty of vegetables for canning.)

South Dakota Vegetables and fruits short in central area.

Alabama All fruit crops below normal. Shortage of vegetables for canning

in northern counties; shortage of fall vegetables due to dry fall.

Fruits and tomatoes for canning, due to drought plus early frosts.

Probably canned vegetables, particularly tomatoes, due to early drought; fresh vegetables in fall gardens (fall drought). More

fruit canned than for several years.

*Reply received too late to include in tabulations.

10530

Arkansas

Oklahoma

 Colorado

Wyoming

Shortage of vegetables and fruits in eastern counties where there has been drought for several years.

Meat. Shortage of meat animals due to 1934 drought; all available animals used for breeding. Price of meat prohibitive to many rural families, especially pork products.

3. Home food manufactures:

- a. What home food manufactures (not including food preservation) has your extension program stressed in 1935?
- b. In 1936 are you likely to recommend more, less, or about the same kind and amounts of home food manufactures?

Home food	Number of States								
manufactures	Included in Survey	a. Emphasizing in 1935	b. Will emphasize in 1936						
Hard cheese from surplus milk	29	19 considerably 3 moderately 7 no answer	14 same as in 1935 3 more than in 1935 1 less than in 1935						
Yeast bread	29	22 considerably 7 no answer	14 same as in 1935 6 more than in 1935 1 less than in 1935						
Breakfast cereals	29	20 considerably 2 moderately 7 no answer	14 same as in 1935 3 more than in 1935 2 less than in 1935						

Other home food manufactures encouraged in 1935-36:

Peanut butter				Alabama			
Sandwich spreads				Missouri			
Coffee substitutes				Arizona			
Butter	Maine (1	co.),	No.	Carolina,	more	in	1936
	Oregon			Virginia,	more	in	1936
	_			Utah,	more	in	1936

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4. Stocks of food preserved by self-supporting farm families in 1935.

*As compared with 1934. *As compared with earlier non-drought

	Fr	iits	Veg. Meats		Fish	Fruits		Veg.		Meats		Fish		
	Can	Dri.	Can	Oth.	Can	Cu.	Canned	Can	Dri.	Can	Oth.	Can	Cu.	Canned
Maine	3.5		1.6	M	34	M	2.6	3.6		M	M	M	M	M
New Hampshire	M M	S	M M	M	M	M	M S	M	- S	M M	IVI.	IVI	IVI	S
New Jersey	L		M	_	S	_	S	-	_		- /ears	1	_	3
New York	_	l - forma	t			- lable	•							
Illinois	M	UI ma	M	1100	avai L	L	1 - 1100	M M	i mitu	M		L	L	_
Indiana	S		S	s	S	 Ti	_	S	_	S	S	-		_
Kansas	M	_	M	_	L	L		M	_	M	_	L	_	_
Kentucky	M	_	L	_	M		_	M	_	M	_	M	_	_
Minnesota	M	M	M	М	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	М
Missouri	M	M	M	S	L	L	x	M	S	L	L	L	L	X
Nebraska	No	prese				droug	!	L	L	I,	L	L	L	_
Ohio	M	-	s	-	S	S	_	M	_	M	-	S	M	_
South Dakota	М	М	M	M	M	M	S	L	L	L	L	L	L	S
Alabama	L	L	L	_	M	M	M	M	M	M	_	M	M	M
Florida	M	_	M	_	M	_	M	-	_	-	_	-		-
Georgia	M	S	M	M	M	S	M	M	S	M	M	M	S	M
Louisiana	S	M	S	M	S	S	S	S	M	S	M	S	S	S
North Carolina.	S	S	S	S	M	S	M	M	M	M	M	M	S	M
Oklahoma	M	S	S	S	S	S	-	L	M	L	M	M	M	_
Tennessee	Inf	ormai	tion	not	avai	lable		}						
Virginia	M	M	M	M	M	S	M	M	M	M	M	M	S	M
Arizona	Inf	ormai	ion	not	avai	lable								
Colorado	M	M	M	M	S	S	S	L	L	L	L	S	S	S
Montana	_	-	-	-	-	-	-	M	-	M	-	S	S	-
Oregon	Inf	Cormat	tion	not	avai	lable	•							
Utah	S	 -	M	-	L	S	-	S	-	M	-	L	S	-
Washington	M	M	M	S	M	S	M	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Wyoming	L	S	S	S	L	L	S	M	S	S	S	M	M	S
Arkansas	S	L	S	S	S	M	M	M	S	M	M	M	M	M
Total States	29	29	29	29	29	29	29	29	29	29	29	29	29	29
Total more	15	7	14	7	11	5	8	14	6	14	8	11	7	7
Total same	5	5	6	7	7	9	7	4	5	3	2	4	7	4
Total less	3	2	2	0	5	4	0	4	3	5	4	6	4	0
No information.	5	15	6	15	6	11	14	7	15	7	15	7	11	18

^{*}Answered by same (S), more (M), less (L).

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5. Food preservation program for rural relief and rehabilitation clients:

Has the net result in 1935 been approximately the same, larger or smaller than in 1934?

- Several States had no information on this point. In all cases, replies were based on the writers! judgment of the situation, rather than on actual figures.
 - 13 answered <u>more</u> food preserved by rural relief and rehabilitation clients in 1935 than in 1934.
 - 4 answered same amount.
 - 5 answered that less had been preserved.
 - 7 did not reply.

6. Planning the farm food supply:

How much progress has been made in 1935 toward the idea of systematic planning of the farm food supply on a yearly basis, and what emphasis will be placed on this point in 1936?

Progress in 1935

- 29 States replied to this question:

 Much progress was reported by 10 States, or 33% of answers

 Maine, Indiana, Kansas, Minnesota, Arkansas, Georgia, North
 Carolina, Tennessee, Virginia, Montana.
 - Some progress was reported by 12 States, or 44% of answers Iowa, Kentucky, Missouri, Ohio, South Dakota, Alabama, Florida, Louisiana, Ohio, Utah, Washington, Wyoming.
 - <u>Little</u> progress was reported by 6 States, or 17% of answers New Hampshire, New York, Oklahoma, Arizona, Colorado, New Jersey (none).
 - Progress in planning separate items of the food supply was reported by 1 State Illinois.

Emphasis in 1936

- 18 States replied that <u>much</u> emphasis would be given to the idea of planning the farm food supply on a yearly basis in 1936.

 Delaware, New Hampshire, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Minnesota, Missouri, Ohio, Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Louisiana, North Carolina, Virginia, Oregon, Utah, Washington, Wyoming.
 - 4 States replied that <u>more</u> emphasis would be given South Carolina, Kentucky, Alabama, Arizona.
 - 6 States replied that <u>some</u> emphasis would be given
 Nebraska, South Dakota, Oklahoma, Colorado, Montana, Illinois.



- 1 State (New Jersey) does not plan to emphasize it.
- 1 State (Illinois)
- 7. What food groups do farm people in your State purchase most freely?

(Answer by: Numbering the groups in approximate order of the money value of such purchases)

Evidently this question was not clearly stated, for it received two different interpretations. Hence it is not desirable to summarize the replies at this time.



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U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
BUREAU OF HOME ECONOMICS

FARM FAMILY LIVING OUTLOOK CHARTS

AND

CONFERENCE SUMMARIES

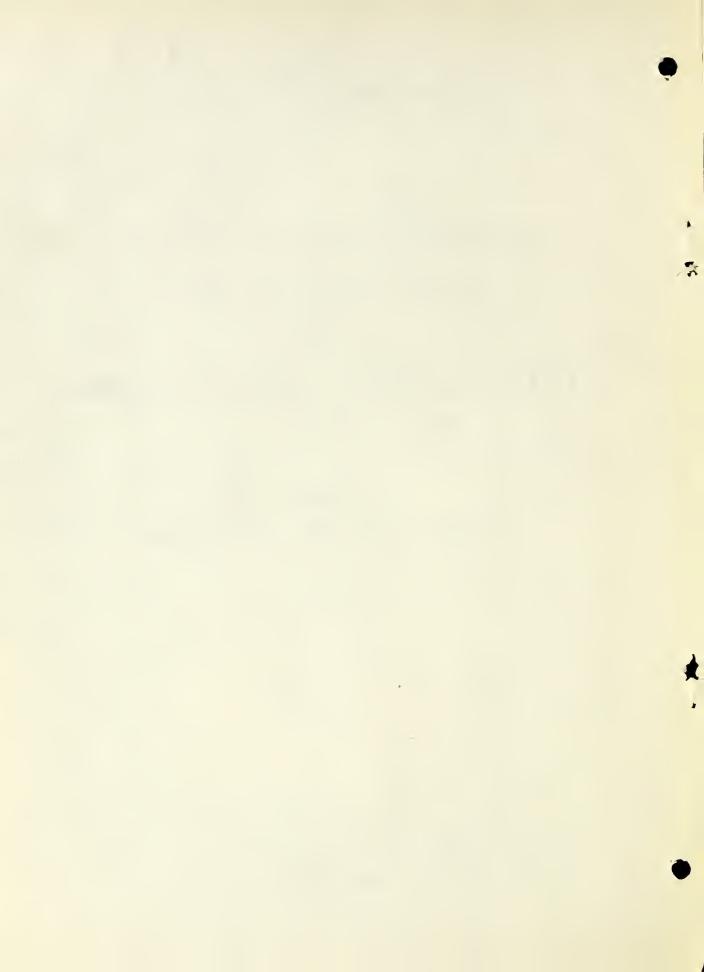
FOR USE WITH THE

AGRICULTURAL OUTLOOK

FOR

1936

WASHINGTON, D. C.
NOVEMBER 1935



SUMMARY OF 1936 OUTLOOK FOR FARM-FAMILY LIVING

General Situation in 1935 as Compared with 1934

Gross cash income from agriculture somewhat higher, but varies from region to region.

Production costs somewhat higher, but not enough so to offset income increases.

Increase in number of part-time farmers since 1930, with consequent increases in income of some farm families from outside earnings.

Tax rates about same, though lower than in 1932.

Interest rates about same, though lower than in 1932. Financial situation of many farmers improved by refinancing of debts.

Prices of "all goods" for family living about same. Prices of foods, especially meats, higher; prices of clothing, lower.

1936 Outlook for Farm-Family Living

Application of Outlook Information for 1936

Cash for family living

Somewhat higher; unequal in regions.

Family living competing closely with farm business for cash. Machinery replacements necessary.

Prices paid for goods bought for family living.

First half, 1936, probable price trends:

"All goods:" about same as now (Nov. 1935).

Food: Prices of "all food" about same; neat, bread, and grain probably will continue higher, relatively, than "all foods."

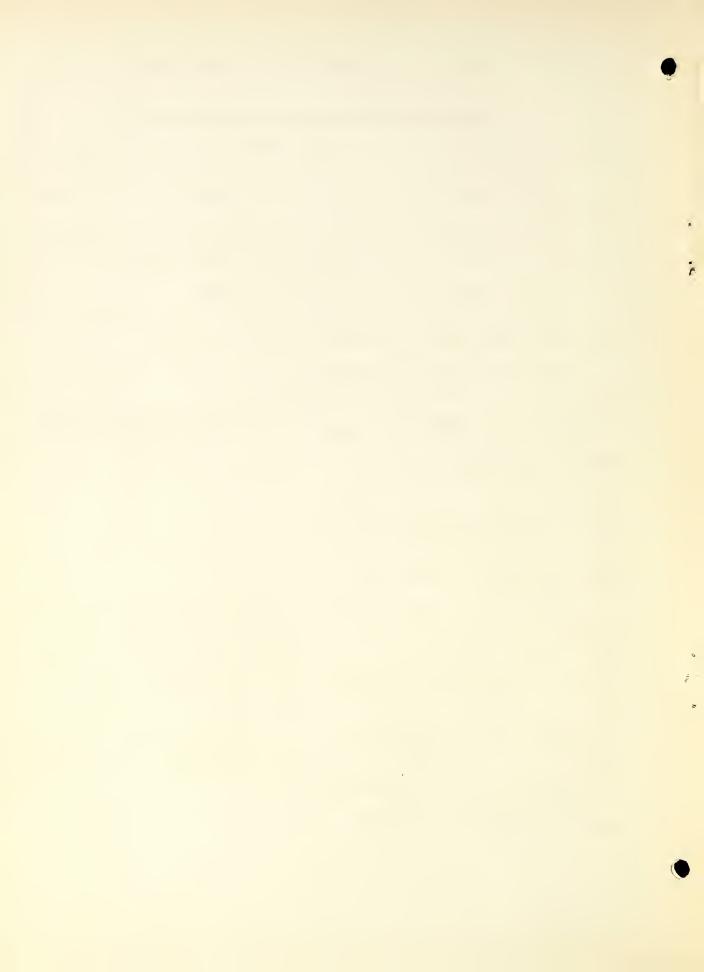
Clothing: Prices slightly higher, especially for shoes, silk, wool, and rayon.

Automobiles and building materials: Prices about same

Goods for household operation: Prices about same

Consider producing more of the meat needed for home use. Cure, can, or refrigerate to extend supply throughout year. Use home-slaughtered meat economically to increase marketings. If bread prices rise more than cost of ingredients, consider more home baking.

If prices of leather, silk, wool, and rayon continue to rise, consider use of substitutes.



Outlook for 1936 for adjustments in:

Family expenditures and production for nome use

Increase in available cash probably will go largely for automobiles, clothing, and "other" expenditures, with a smaller share for food. Adjustments, however, will depend upon nature of 1935 expenditures.

Even if the cash income does not change, family spending patterns in 1936 may differ from those of 1935 where the greater home production and conservation of food in 1935 lessens food expenditures.

Continuation of food-production programs is expected as means of attaining better food supply and of releasing cash for goods and services that cannot be home-produced. Home-production of fuel, ice and other goods probably will continue as in 1935.

Purchasing Practices

Wide variations which exist in interest rates on instalment credit and time purchases, continued.

Continued growth in farm cooperative associations and in volume of goods handled by them for household use. Legislation has enlarged Federally-sponsored credit facilities relating to cooperatives.

Programs of Federal agencies for research, education, and representation of consumers, continued.

Application for 1936

Weigh values carefully in deciding how to spend increases. What expenditures will mean most to the family?

Plan budgets for household expenditures and for production for family use; keep farm and household accounts, take farm and household inventories.

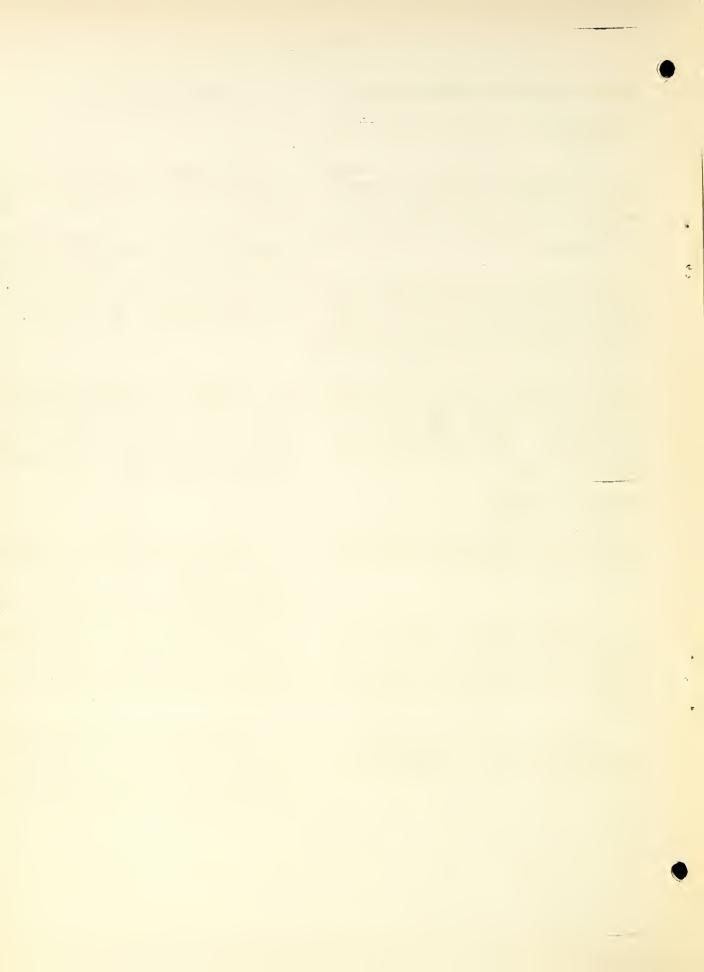
Plan wardrobes with respect to needs of family members. Buy carefully. Continue home clothing construction.

Plan suitable year-round food supply. Produce and preserve enough for ordinary use, plus a carryover for emergencies. Consider home-food production with respect to dietary needs. Make decisions on basis of available cash, time, and land.

Pay cash when possible. Investigate actual interest rate and credit terms which often are concealed in sales contracts. Use credit facilities less expensive than instalment credit, if possible.

Buy through cooperatives or stimulate organization of cooperatives. Encourage expansion of cooperatives' stocks to include greater variety of products for family living.

Keep informed on consumer problems; use available information to guide purchasing. Learn to protect consumer interests in the same way that other groups such as "big business" protect their interests.



INCOME AVAILABLE TO FARM FAMILIES

Income from agriculture. Income available to the farm family in any year depends largely upon gross income from farm production. However, from this gross income, production expenses must be deducted, leaving for the farm family: (1) income "in kind" derived from products retained for home use, and (2) cash income available as a return for the family's labor, capital, and management. Not all of this cash income available to the family can be used for living expenses; this fund also must provide for purchase and replacement of farm equipment and other capital goods for the farm business, for life insurance, and for other nonfarm investments. To a certain extent, family living and the farm business are competitors for the available cash.

National gross income from farm production fluctuates greatly. It fell from approximately 12 billion dollars in 1929 to a low point of about 5-1/3 billion in 1932. By 1934 it was more than one third higher than in 1932, and preliminary estimates indicate that in 1935 it will be appreciably increased. (See chart, "Distribution of gross income from farm production.")

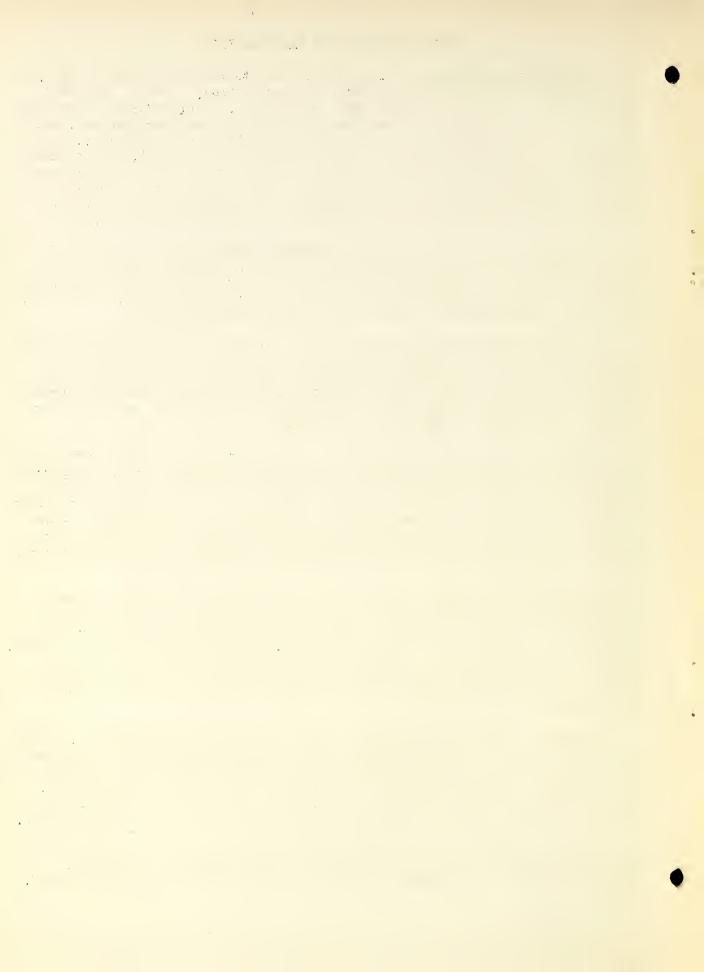
The farm family's share of gross income -- both income "in kind" and cash available after meeting production expenses -- falls more rapidly than does total gross income, in periods of deepening depression. During such years, production expenses decline less, relatively, than does cash available to the family. In periods of recovery, cash available to the family increases more rapidly than production expenses. (See chart.)

During the period 1925-29 when the national gross income from farm production averaged somewhat less than 12 billion dollars annually, about 56 percent was available to farm operators and their families -- 41 percent as cash and 15 percent as income "in kind." In 1932 when gross income had fallen to about 5-1/3 billion dollars, only 46 percent was available to farm families -- 28 percent as cash and 18 percent as income "in kind." When gross income rose to about 7 billion dollars in 1934, the percentage available to farm families rose to 59 -- 45 percent as cash, and 14 percent as income "in kind."

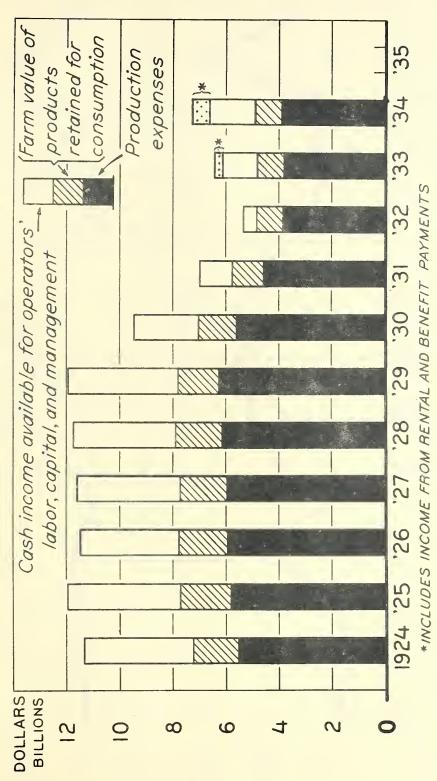
Additional cash income. Cash incomes of many farm families are supplemented by earnings in nonagricultural industries, by keeping tourist boarders and lodgers, by making and selling handicraft articles and other made-at-home products, or by selling produce directly to consumers, through roadside stands, farm women's markets, etc. Although in the aggregate such income is unimportant compared with national income from agriculture, it is very important to some families, even though it may yield them a small return per hour for their labor.

Outlook. Cash income available to farm families from agriculture, after meeting production expenses, probably will be higher in 1935 than in any year since 1929. However, not all sections of the country are sharing equally in this increase. The greatest gain is occurring in the North Central States, with moderate increases in other regions. For the country as a whole, the outlook for 1936 agricultural income is for a continuance of the upward trend.

There is evidence, also, of an increase in part-time farms as well as in farm population during the past 5 years, hence the number of farm family members available for part-time industrial employment probably has increased.



Distribution of Gross Income from Farm Production, 1924 to Date



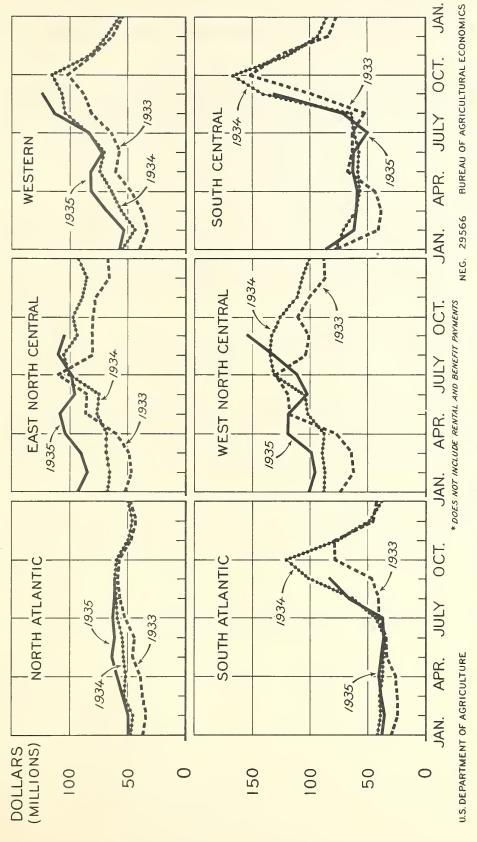
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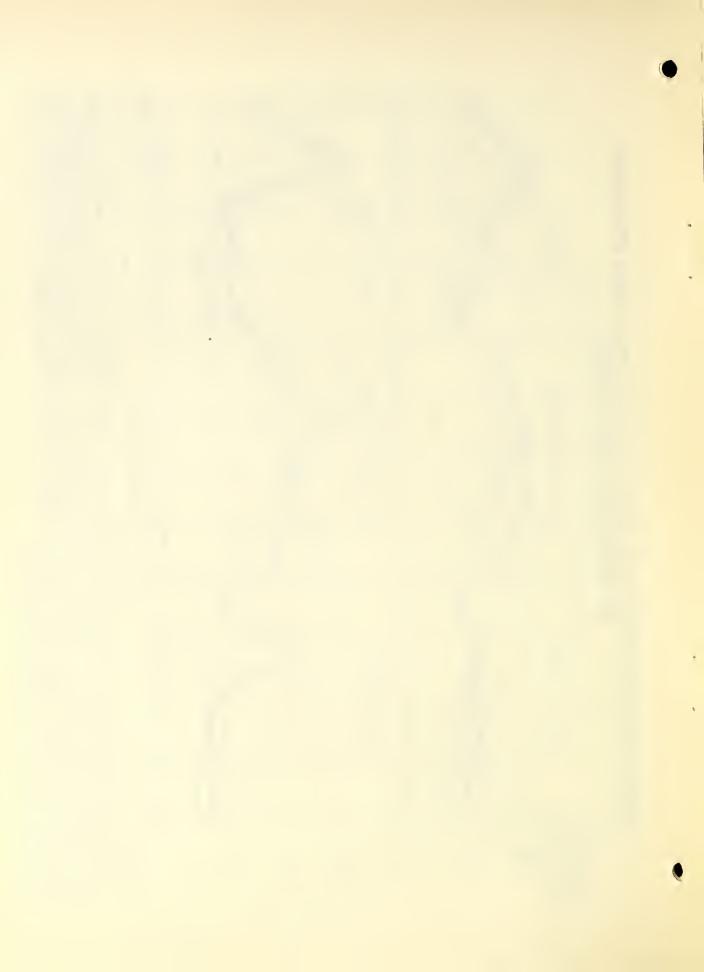
In periods of advancing income farmers' expenditures for production increase less rapidly than cash income. The marked increase since 1932 in cash income available to operators after paying the necessery production expenses is accompanied by increased purchases by farm families of clothing, furniture and other commodities used in the farm home.



CASH RECEIPTS FROM THE SALE OF PRINCIPAL FARM PRODUCTS, BY REGIONS, 1933 TO DATE*



THE MONTHLY INCOME FROM LIVE-IN REGIONS SUCH AS THE SOUTH ATLANTIC AND SOUTH CENTRAL STATES, WHERE A LARGE THERE IS A MARKED INCREASE IN STOCK AND LIVESTOCK PRODUCTS TENDS TOWARD A MORE EVEN DISTRIBUTION OF RECEIPTS THROUGHOUT THE YEAR, PARTICULARLY IN THE MORTH ATLANTIC STATES WHERE THE MAJOR SOURCE CASH RECEIPTS IN THE FALL MONTHS. THE REGULARITY IN THE FARM INCOME IS RECEIVED FROM CROPS. OF INCOME IS DAIRY AND POULTRY PRODUCTS. PROPORTION OF



PRICES PAID FOR GOODS PURCHASED FOR FARM FAMILY LIVING

Prices paid by farm families for goods used for family living were slightly higher in the first 6 months of 1935 than in the corresponding period of 1934. Index numbers of the Bureau of Agricultural Economics showing prices of all commodities for farm family maintenance rose from 122 on June 15, 1934, to 124 on June 15, 1935, an increase of only 1.6 percent. (See chart, Prices paid by farmers for food, clothing, and family maintenance.)

This small increase, however, represents the balancing of somewhat pronounced opposite trends in prices of different commodities rather than a uniform small increase in the price of all. A 13 percent rise in food prices was offset by a fall of 5 percent in prices paid for clothing and a small reduction in prices of other goods purchased. (See different movements of price curves on chart.)

Additional information concerning prices of food and clothing are discussed in greater detail in the sections of this pamphlet dealing with those commodities.

Prices of goods used for household operation, such as kerosene, coal, gasoline, soap and other supplies for laundry and cleaning, are practically the same as a year ago, as are prices of furniture and furnishings. (See chart, Prices paid by farmers for operating expenses, furniture and furnishings, ctc.)

Prices paid by farmers for automobiles, and for building materials for houses, changed little during the first 8 months of 1935. While an upward trend in industrial activity is increasing demand for building materials, there is at this time no evidence of probable increase in their prices, or in prices of automobiles.

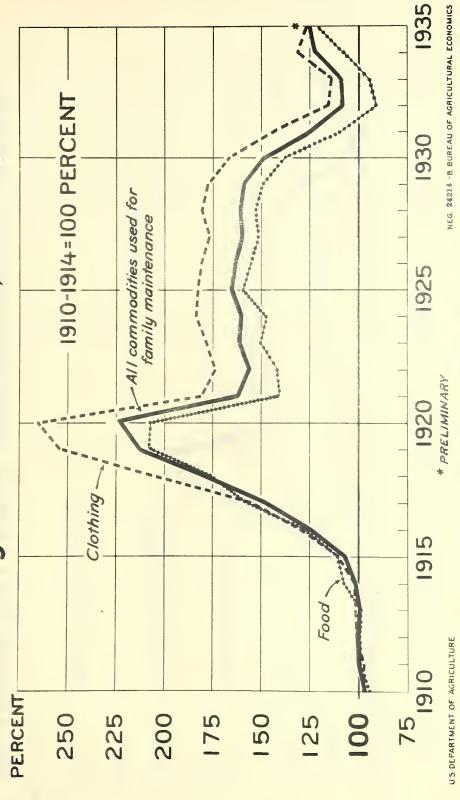
No significant changes in prices of goods for farm family maintenance are anticipated within the next six months.

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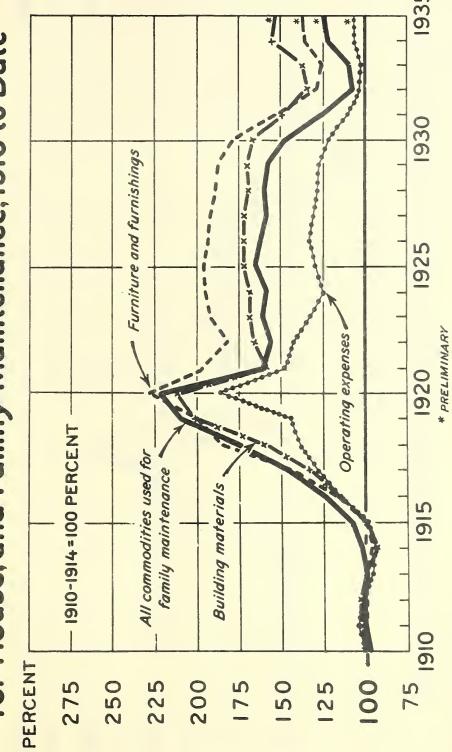
Prices Paid by Farmers for Food, Clothing, and Family Maintenance, 1910 to Date



commodities used in production. Clothing and food are the two most important expenditures for the farm family, and prices for these commodities very largely determine the trend of the prices paid by farmers Prices paid by farmers for commodities used by the family have not advanced as much sinde 1932 as for commodities used by the family.



Prices Paid by Farmers for Operating Expenses, Furniture and Furnishings, Building Materials for House, and Family Maintenance, 1910 to Date



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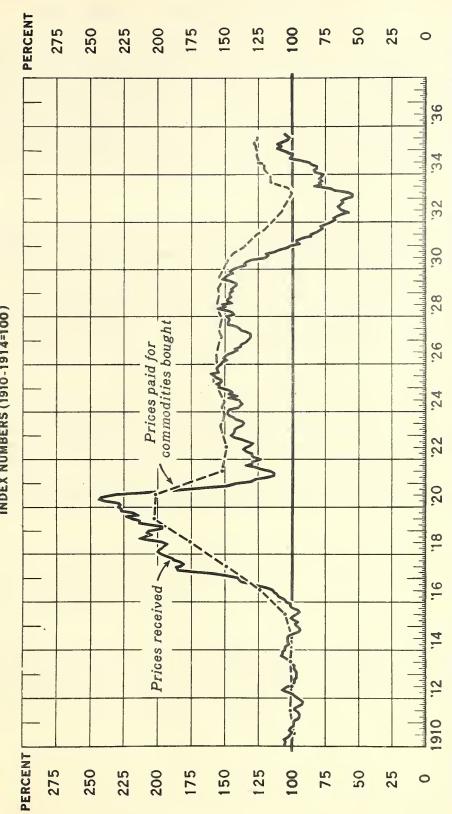
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The operating expenses of the farm howsehold, which are primarily expenditures for fuel, gasoline, kerosene, etc., have advanced much less than the prices of other commodities bought by farmers since 1932. Building material prices have advanced relatively more than prices of other commodities.



PRICES RECEIVED AND PAID BY FARMERS, 1910 TO DATE

INDEX NUMBERS (1910-1914=100)



U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

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Prices received by farmers fluctuate much more than prices paid by farmers, partly because many farm products are raw materials and partly because the production of farm products tends to be maintained in periods of declining demand. Prices paid by farmers tend to fluctuate very little except in periods of major price adjustments.



ADJUSTMENTS IN FARM FAMILY CONSUMPTION

The consumption program of the farm family is related both to its plan for spending cash and for producing goods for family living. All resources therefore must be considered in making and carrying out consumption plans — not only the money available and goods on hand, but also the time and energy of the family members and the production capacities of the farm itself. It is important, also, that the plans for consumption be made as a balanced whole, within which the parts supplement one another. Thus when cash income falls, as during the worst years of the depression, it becomes necessary to change production plans and practices so that levels of living may not fall so low, relatively, as have cash receipts.

With rising cash income, the farm family still must make important choices as to how it will use its resources in order to obtain maximum human values. What proportion of the increased income to devote to family living; what proportion to the farm business; and what to provision for the future; how best to use the money allocated to the family; the extent to which production for family living shall be emphasized in order to free more money for purchases of goods and services which cannot be home produced; the balance between use of time for work and for leisure — these and related questions must be considered in making consumption plans, and must be decided by each family upon the basis of its own assets, needs, and desires.

Farm families whose cash incomes have increased to the extent that more money is available for maintenance, probably will distribute the increase somewhat unequally over several items of family living rather than to only one or two. With incomes for 1934 higher than for 1933, a group of Nebraska families increased expenditures for automobile, recreation, and clothing relatively more than they increased expenditures for food and household operation. (See chart, "Changes in expenditures for family living," and the two pages following, for more detailed information concerning expenditures of these Nebraska farm families.)

That expenditure patterns of these Nebraska farm families are similar to those of families of similar socio-economic status in other States in the East North Central region is indicated by family living studies. (See table, "Expenditures of farm families in 1934.")

Expenditure patterns of farm families with lower incomes probably would react differently to increases in income. Such families might be forced to use relatively more of the increase to replenish depleted stocks of clothing and household furnishings than would families at higher levels, who reduced their stock of these goods less during the depression.

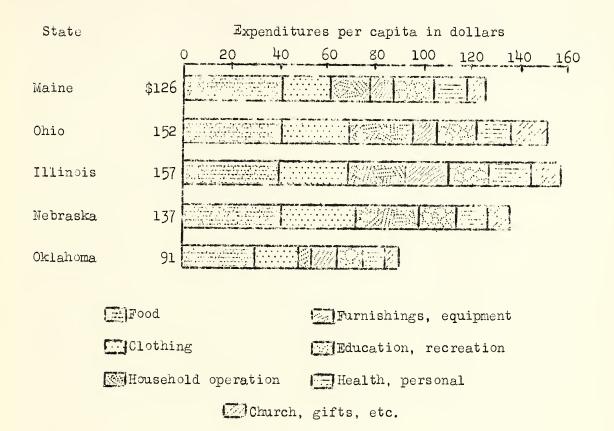
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The data on which this chart was based were taken from home accounts summarized by the Extension Service of each of five States. The figures do not include housing and transportation. For Nebraska, "household operation" includes some expenditures for furnishings and equipment.

There is a strong similarity between the Ohio and Illinois yearly figures, both in total per capita expenditures and in their distribution among different items.

Yearly expenditures for food in four of the five States are almost identical, from \$40 to \$41 per capita. In Oklahoma they are lower (\$31) but this figure represents a much larger proportion of the total, probably because of the lower income and lowered level of living during a drought year.

The money spent for clothing ranged from \$18 in Oklahoma to \$31 in Nebraska. For operating expenses the range was from \$5 in Oklahoma to \$27 in Ohio and Nebraska. Expenditures for education and recreation and for health and personal items are so close in four of five States as to suggest that the families keeping records in these States have similar standards of living.

Bur. Home Econ. U.S.D.A.

		Average				Ave	Average per capita expenditures	apita exp	enditures	50			
State	Number of families studied	number in house-	Total	Total minus transpor- tation	Food	Clothing	Household Furnish- Clothing and ings, and repairs ment	Furnish- ings, equip- ment	Trans- por- tation	Educa- tion, Recre- ation	Medical care, health	Personal	Church, gifts, etc.
Illinois Iowa Kansas Maine Nebraska Wevada Ohio	231 34 176 75 291 41	4444 W W 4 W W 4 W W O W 4 W V 4 W W	\$177 171 3/181 126 126 157 124 159	\$156 1181 126 137 159 929	\$40 42 42 88 114 44 144 146	4/4/ 882 882 882 982 981 881	\$29 2/ 28 2/ 28 11 5/ 27 16 34 34	\$10 10 10 10 10	22 23 TITE 20 20 TITE	\$17 13 22 17 15 15 10	213 112 13 13 13 13 13 13	2 4 4 V	\$12 13 13 10 10 15 15
1/ Not included in report.	ded in rel		2/ Includes also	! -	es, inter	est, fire	taxes, interest, fire insurance		tal expen	ditures n	ot accoun	3/Total expenditures not accounted for under items	der items
4/ Clothing and personal items grouped.	and person rouped.		/ Househo	nusehold operation includes som for furnishings and equipment.	on includ and equi	es some e	5/ Household operation includes some expenditures for furnishings and equipment.	-	cation, :	instea. Mucation, recreation, Not listed senarately.	n, church	6/Education, recreation, church, gifts combined. 7/Not alisted senarately.	mbined.

This table, based on summaries of home accounts from 8 States, shows annual per capita expenditures for the principal items in family living. Because only 3 States reported expenditures for transportation or automobile, two totals are given - one with and one without that item.

for furnishings and equipment.

items grouped.

Not listed separately.

Total per capita expenditures (exclusive of transportation) ranged from \$92 in Oklahoma to \$181 in Kansas. The median was approximately \$143 per capita, or \$600 per family of 4.2 persons, the average size of the account-keeping families in the 7 States which included data on that point.

In 7 of the States, expenditures for food were very similar - from \$38 to \$44 per capita.

in 4 States Clothing expenditures in the 6 States which listed that item separately ranged from \$19 to \$29 per capita; average per capita expenditures were \$28 to \$29. Expenditures for household operation and repairs ranged from \$5 to \$34 per capita. The wide variations in this item probably reflect differences in classification of expenditures fully as much as differences in buying practices.

Three of the 7 States which listed this item Expenditures for furnishings and equipment ranged from \$6 to \$14 per capita. separately spent \$10 per capita. Expenditures for education and recreation ranged from \$11 to \$26 per capita. In 5 of the 7 States which separated education and recreation from all other items, per capita expenditures were between \$13 and \$17.

Expenditures for medical care and health ranged from \$6 to \$13 per capita; in 7 States expenditures were between \$9 and \$13. Personal expenditures were listed separately by 5 States with a range of \$2 to \$5 per capita. Expenditures for church, gifts, etc., ranged from \$7 to \$15; in 5 of the 7 States which listed this item separately expenditures were from \$10 to \$15.

(References to reports of these studies on following page)

- (References to accompany table of expenditures of farm families in 1934)
- 1. Ruth C. Freeman. Summary of Illinois home account books. Ill. Univ.

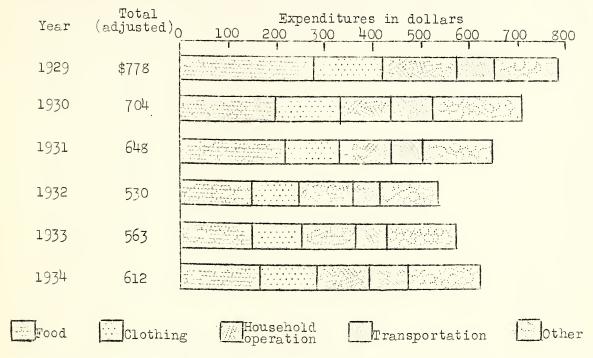
 Agr. Coll. Ext. Serv. Urbana, 1935. (HEE-448, Mineographed.)
- 2. Pauline M. Marriott. Farm living expenditures of 34 Iowa farm families.

 1934. Iowa State Coll. Ext. Serv. Ames, 1935. (HM-113, Mineographed.)
- 3. Bessie Goodman. Home account summary for Kansas 1934. Kans. State Coll. Ext. Serv. Manhattan, 1935. (Mimeographed)
- 4. Anon. Summary of Maine home account books from records of 75 farm fami as and 16 village families. 1934-35. Maine Univ. Agr. Coll. Ext. Serv. Orono, 1935. (Mimeographed)
- 5. Muriel Smith. Nebraska summary of home account records from the 1934 books. Neb. Univ. Agr. Coll. Ext. Serv. Circ. 11-113. Lincoln, 1935. (Mineographed)
- 6. V. E. Scott and Louis Titus. Summary of family classification, farm privilege, and cash cost of living. Data for 1934 on 41 families. Nev. Univ. Agr. Expt. Sta. and Agr. Ext. Serv. News Bull. Vol. IX. No. 2. (Mineographed)
- 7. Thelma Beall. Ohio farm family living costs for 1934. Ohio State
 Univ. Ext. Serv. Columbus, 1935. (Mimeographed)
- 8. Anon. Oklahoma summary of 25 home accounts for 3 years. Okla. A & M Coll. Ext. Div. Stillwater, 1935. (Unpublished data)

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CHANGES IN EXPENDITURES FOR FAMILY LIVING

Nebraska Farm Families: 1929-34



Changes in the living expenditures of a group of Nebraska farm families during the years 1929-34 are presented, using data collected by Muriel Smith and published in Nebraska Extension Circular 11-113.

Reductions in purchases for farm-family living went hand in hand with reduced farm incomes during the four years 1929-32, according to this chart. Increased purchases accompanied increased farm income in 1933 and 1934. The average amount spent for family living in each of these 6 years has been adjusted to 1934 price levels, in order to eliminate differences in purchasing power of money. Each bar, therefore, represents the purchasing power of the year's expenditures at 1934 price levels, instead of the number of dollars actually spent. For example, goods and services costing \$1,009 in 1929 would have cost only \$778 at the lower prices of 1934. The bar for 1929, therefore, is shown as \$778 so that total purchases of that year may be compared with purchases of 1934 and of intervening years.

The average percentage of total expenditures allotted to each of the various items of living is shown by divisions of the bar for that year. For example, average food expenditures which were 35 percent of the total in 1929 are shown as 35 percent of the 1929 bar. In 1932, food expenditures fell to 28 percent of the total. However, food purchases declined much more than did the percentage allotted to food, since total expenditures in 1932 were only 68 percent as high as in 1929 (\$530 as compared with \$778).

(Continued next page)



CHANGES IN EXPENDITURES FOR FARM-FAMILY LIVING (continued)

Changes in purchases of food and some other items during this 6-year period are snown more adequately by the table below than by the preceding graph. In this table, all expenditure figures have been adjusted for family size (families averaged 3.9 members). Figures for each year's total expenditures have been adjusted to 1934 price levels (all-commodity index). Figures for expenditures for food, clothing, household operation, and "other" items also have been adjusted to 1934 price levels, but by specific indexes. Thus the value of food expenditures is adjusted for each year by the index for food to eliminate differences due specifically to changes in retail food prices. Expenditures for transportation are not given because there is no transportation index number. The sum of the expenditures for the items shown, therefore, does not equal the value of total expenditures.

Changes in expenditures for farm-family living

	Neurasia rain ramifies 1725-74								
	Number of families included	Value of total expend- itures per family	Value of average expenditures per family for -						
Year			Food	Clothing	Household operation	"Other," such as develop- ment			
1929 1930 1931 1932 1933 1934	25 36 91 147 164 239	\$777 759 667 542 548 612	\$259 210 228 161 147 161	\$130 136 114 101 104 119	\$171 126 104 104 102 106	\$156 176 133 109 121 150			

Purchases of food fell from a value of \$259 in 1929 to \$161 in 1932. This fall probably represents a decrease both in quantities and in quality of food bought. With farm income in 1933 only slightly greater than in 1932, purchases of food continued to fall. Value of food produced for family use was approximately the same during 1932 and 1933, according to reports from these families. It seems, therefore, that decreased purchases were not offset by increased food production. In 1934, with a greater income increase than the year before, food purchases rose. This increase probably was due in part to the drought of that year which lessened the supply of home-produced food.

In 1934, value of total expenditures were about 12 percent above those for 1933. Value of purchased food rose approximately 10 percent; value of clothing, 14 percent; of household operation, only 4 percent. Value of expenditures for "other" goods and services, including those for education, recreation, medical care, and gifts increased most of all, rising about 24 percent.



The Food Situation, 1935-36 (Abstract of report)

by Gustave Burmeister, Bureau of Agricultural Economics

The supply of all foods which is available for domestic consumption in 1935-36 will be slightly larger than was consumed in 1934-35, and only a little less than the average annual consumption in 1925-29. However, some foods are relatively much more plentiful than others.

Meat and lard. Owing to marked reduction in livestock numbers following the 1934 drought, meat and lard supplies for the year ending June 1935 probably will be the smallest in several years. The 1935-36 supply of meat, other than poultry, is expected to be about 14 percent less than in 1934-35, and 21 percent less than the 1925-29 annual average. The sharpest decrease will be in pork. Production of beef, veal, and lamb, probably will be little changed. Numbers of livestock available for slaughter in 1936-37 are expected to increase over those of 1935-36.

Poultry and eggs. - Supplies of poultry meat are expected to be slightly larger in 1935-36 than in the 2 previous years, and almost as large as the average for 1925-29. Egg supplies will be slightly smaller than in recent years, and much smaller than in 1925-29.

Milk and butter. - An unusually large production of milk and butter is expected in 1935-36. Good pastures this fall and the increased feed supply are expected to more than offset the smaller number of cows milked.

Food grains. The 1935 wheat crop was lower in quantity and quality than expected, owing to black rust and excessive rainfall. But with the carry-over, the available 1935-36 supply probably is ample for domestic requirements. Some wheat of high-milling quality may be imported. The supply of rice for 1935-36 domestic consumption may be slightly less than was consumed in 1935-36 or annually in the period 1925-29. The 1935 crops of corn, oats, barley, and rye are materially larger than in 1934. Supplies for human consumption will be ample; only a small portion of these crops is used directly for food.

Fruits. The supply of all fruits for the 1935-36 marketing period is more than ample. The quantity available for use as fresh fruit is expected to be 13 percent higher than 1934-35 and 17 percent higher than the 1925-29 average. Since exports probably will continue to decline relative to total fruit production, this season's domestic supply of fresh fruits may be even larger than the above figures suggest. The volume of dried fruits available for the domestic market probably will be 42 percent larger than usual, and 29 percent larger than domestic consumption in 1934-35. Dried prunes will be very plentiful. The total 1935-36 supply of commercially canned fruits, including carry-over, is about 8 percent larger than in 1934-35, and 20 percent larger than the 1925-29 average. Canned peaches, apricots, cherries, apples, and grapefruit will be more plentiful this year than last.

Vegetables.— Throughout most of 1935, fresh vegetables have been plentiful and probably will continue so. The production of potatoes, sweetpotatoes, carrots, cabbage, and onions has been relatively large and is expected to be ample to supply demand until the 1936 crops appear. The commercial pack of canned vegetables is one of the largest on record. The 1935-36 domestic supply of dry edible beans is expected to be larger than for several years. Marketings of peanuts are unusually large, but the high prices of peanut oil probably will divert much of this crop to oil.

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Retail Food Prices

Relative retail food prices 1926-35. The graph on the following page shows fluctuations of retail prices of "all foods" and of certain groups of foods during the 10-year period, 1926-35. Prices of "all foods" reached their lowest point in 1933 when they were 62 percent of the 1926 level. In 1934 they averaged approximately 69 percent, and for the first 9 months of 1935, 76 percent of the 1926 level.

Meat prices have undergone the widest fluctuations, rising in 1929 to 110 percent of the 1926 level, and then declining to 60 percent of the 1926 level in 1933. During 1935, meats have increased in price more rapidly than any other food group, averaging in the first 9 months 89 percent of their 1926 price. Except in 1933, meats have been relatively higher than "all foods" throughout the 10-year period.

Grain products have shown less decline from 1926 prices than have other food groups; and since 1930 they have maintained a relatively higher price level than "all foods." During 1935 the price increase for grain products has been less marked than for "all foods" or for the other food groups represented on the graph.

"Other foods" (including fats, sugars, fruits and vegetables, eggs, and miscellaneous items) have declined more from 1926 prices than "all foods" and have not recovered to the same degree from their low level of 1932 and 1933.

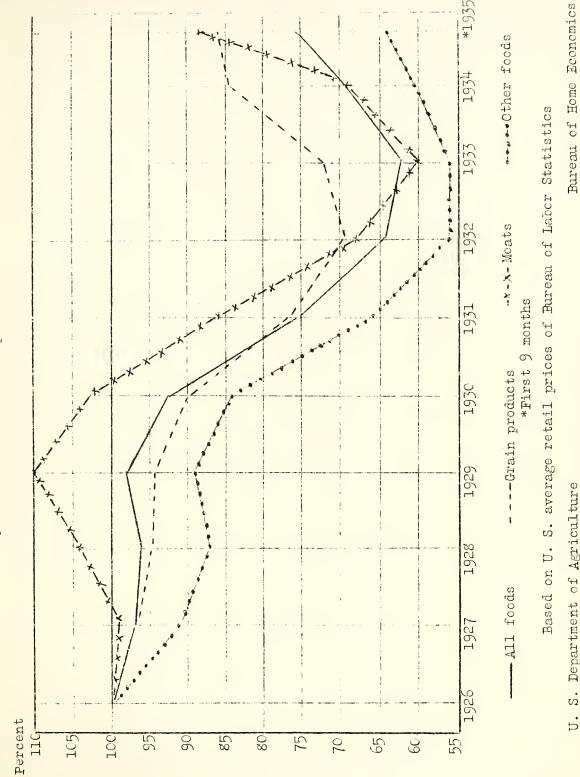
Outlook for food prices, first half 1936.— In view of the abundant supplies available for domestic consumption, so far as most groups of food are concerned, retail food prices in the first half of 1936 probably will not be naterially different from those in the last half of 1935. The foods of which the supplies are relatively short and for which prices during the first months of 1936 may be somewhat higher than in 1935 include: neat, especially pork; lard; bread, flours, and cereals. Since form families spend almost 30 percent of their food money for bread, flour and cereals, and another 30 percent for neats and lard, increases in the prices of these items would be of concern. Some adjustment in plans for food purchase and home production probably would follow, such as more home baking of bread; the home namufacture of certain types of breakfast cereals; an economical consumption of fats and oils.

(650)



U. S. Department of Agriculture

1926 index numbers = 100 percent





Careful planning for well-balanced diets the year around has long been urged of farm families by the nutritionists of the Extension Service and others interested in rural health and quality of living. The problem is complex; it includes not only selection and purchase of food suited to family needs, but also food production and preservation. Long-time planning for adequate diets requires time and thought, but the returns make it eminently worth while.

The yearly quantities of different kinds of foods required by a family depend first on its nutritional needs. Also, they depend upon the family's way of living as determined by tastes, cash available for food, and possible scope and success of home-food production and conservation programs. As an aid in food budgeting, the Bureau of Home Economics has developed several basic diet plans (see Planning Farm Family Living, mimeo. 629 9-2-35). In a number of States, the Extension Service has adapted these or other suitable plans to State conditions, such as sectional dietary habits, type of farming, and climatic or soil factors that Effect production and storage of food.

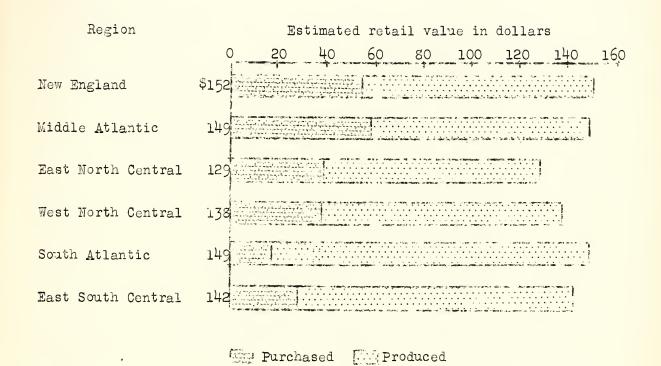
As a step in planning for the year ahead, the individual family will do well to appraise its diet of previous years, and to consider its changing food needs and potential resources. In the absence of records, the family may find it helpful to consult the estimates of customary practices in food production and purchase, as shown in succeeding charts. These estimates are based on information obtained from over 3,400 families in studies made between 1917 and 1933. Money values have been adjusted to September 1935 price levels.

The total retail money value of the average food supply of farm families seems to vary little from region to region, but the proportions purchased and home produced vary greatly. Although farm-furnished food may amount to 80 or 90 percent of the total food supply in the Southern States and 60 to 70 percent in the North, yet expenditures for food are not infrequently the largest item of the disbursements for farm-family living. Of 66 studies made between 1922 and 1933 and giving information on this point, the average expenditure for food amounted to 20 percent or more of total expenditures in all but five studies. In about a third of the studies, it amounted to 30 percent or more of the total. Whether or not a family's cash expenditures for food can **tr** should be reduced through more effective home-production measures is a problem for each family to decide.

Outlook for 1936.— In 1935, most farm families have continued extensive programs of food production for family use. With good yields from garden and orchard in most sections of the country, the supplies of home canned and stored fruits and vegetables are greater for 1935-36 than in the previous year. Home canning and curing meat may be lessened, because higher prices for livestock may encourage selling rather than slaughtering animals for family use. If this proves to be the case, more economical utilization of meats and fats probably will follow. The greater production of food for home use in 1935 may tend to reduce food expenditures below the level of 1934, thus leaving a larger share of the income available for other living expenses. Or if food expenditures continue at the 1934 level, the increased production of 1935 may be the means of providing more satisfactory and varied diets. In 1936, there probably will be a continuation of well-considered programs of food production for family use.

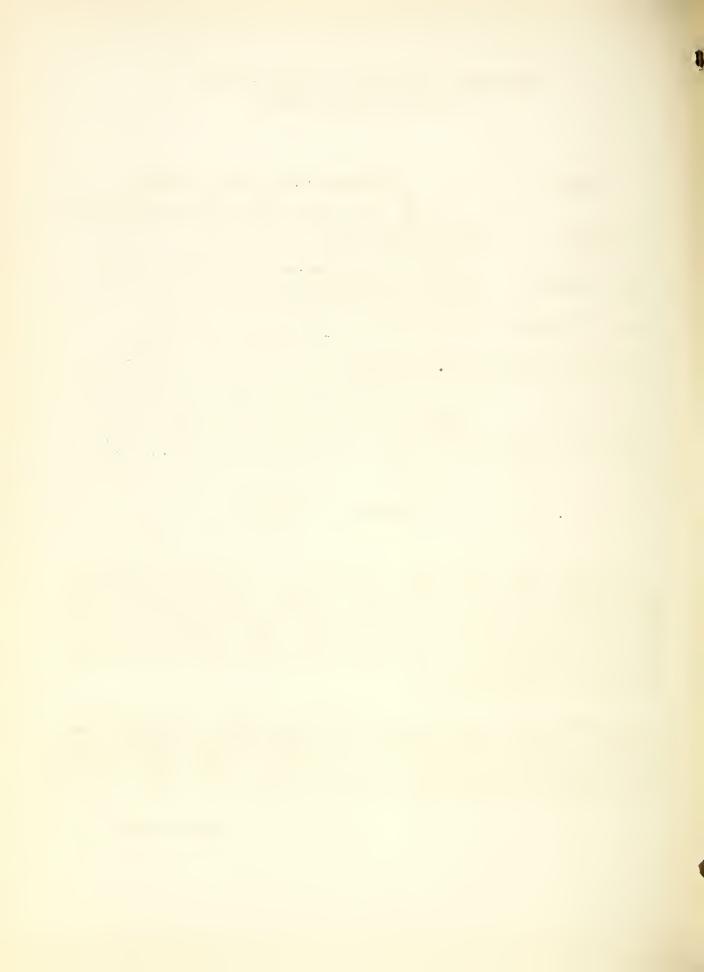


MONEY VALUE OF FOOD SUPPLY OF FARM FAMILIES Yearly per capita average

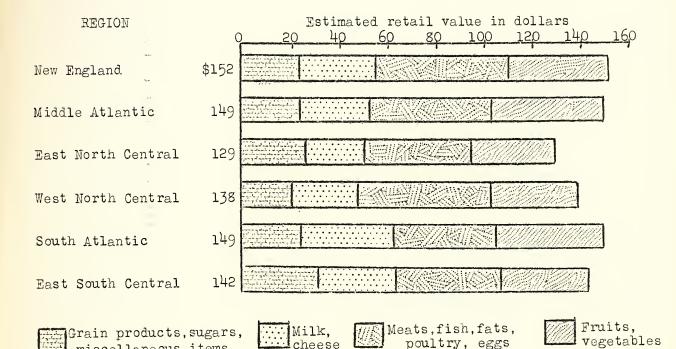


The total retail money value of the average food supply of farm families appears to vary little from region to region. The range is from about \$129 per person per year to about \$152, according to averages based on studies made between 1917 and 1933 and adjusted to September 1935 price levels. On the basis of average U. S. prices for September 1935, farm families could purchase a minimum-cost diet for about \$135 per capita per year. The average money value of farm family diets in five of the six regions shown above is somewhat higher than this figure.

The amount of food purchased depends upon the scope of the home food production program. In these studies, the average value of purchased food varied from about \$17 per person per year in the South Atlantic region, where there can be extensive production in home gardens, to between \$54 and \$58 in the New England and Middle Atlantic States where the growing season is shorter.



MONEY VALUE OF DIFFERENT TYPES OF FOOD IN FARM FAMILY DIETS Yearly per capita average



Although the per capita retail value of the farm food supply varies little from region to region, there appear to be marked differences in dietary habits. According to estimates based on studies made between 1917 and 1933 (money values adjusted to September 1935 price levels), the consumption of fruits and vegetables is higher in New England and the Middle and South Atlantic States than elsewhere, and the consumption of meats, fish, poultry, eggs, and fats is relatively high in the New England, Middle Atlantic, and West North Central States. The consumption of milk and cheese seems to be higher in the New England and Southern States than elsewhere, and the consumption of grain products, sugars, and miscellaneous items, comparatively high in the East South Central States.

Meats, fish, fats,

poultry, eggs

Probably not all of these apparent differences in consumption are attributable to regional food habits. In part they may reflect differences in the methods by which data are obtained. Consumption of food is commonly overestimated when information is obtained by the use of schedules, and not all carefully supervised records of dietary habits are secured from representative families. The data pertaining to the South, especially as regards milk consumption, probably are more subject to these criticisms than are figures from other areas.

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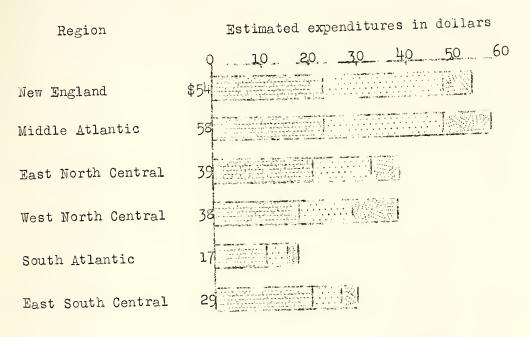
vegetables

(656)

miscellaneous items

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EXPENDITURES OF FARM FAMILIES FOR DIFFERENT TYPES OF FOOD Yearly per capita average



Grain products, sugars, Meats, fish, poultry, miscellaneous items eggs, fats, milk

The bars show a considerable variation from region to region in the total amount spent by farm families for food. They also show how the total expenditures are divided among different kinds of food. The figures, taken from studies made between 1917 and 1933, have been adjusted to September 1935 price levels.

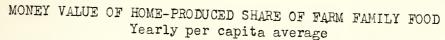
New England and the Middle Atlantic regions show the largest expenditures for food. The distribution among the three food groups is very much alike in these regions.

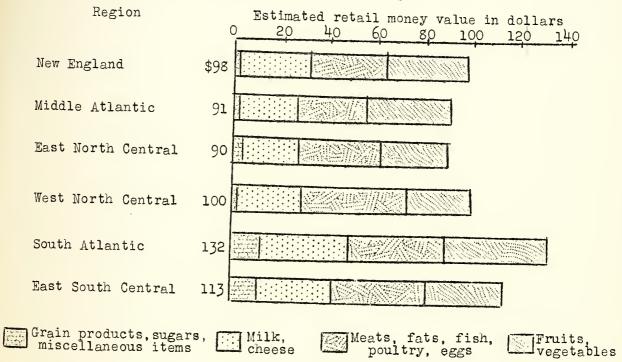
In the two North Central regions both the total amount spent for food and the distribution of this money among food groups are apparently very much alike.

In the South Atlantic region average yearly expenditures per person for food are very low perhaps because of dietary habits and also because of the extensive food production program. The largest amount goes for grain products, sugar, and miscellaneous, as would be expected under these conditions.

In the East South Central region the yearly per capita expenditures for food are comparatively low, with considerable emphasis on grain products, sugar, and miscellaneous items.

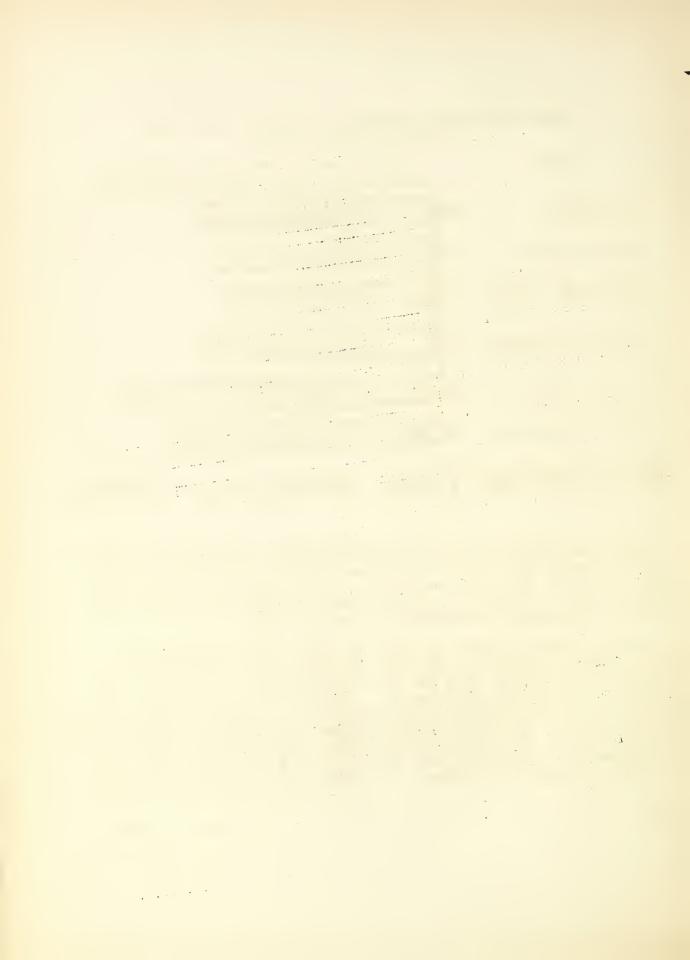




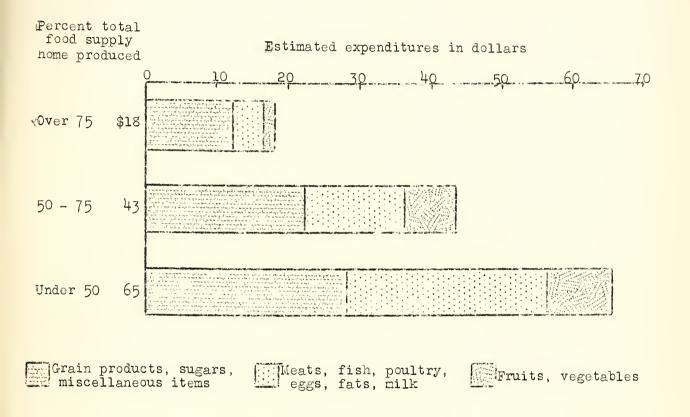


The total retail value of home-produced food varies considerably from region to region. The range is from about \$90 per capita per year in the East North Central States to about \$132 per capita per year in the South Atlantic States, according to estimates based on studies made between 1917 and 1933, and adjusted to September 1935 price levels.

Home-production of grain products and sirups and of vegetables and fruits seems to be greater in the South Atlantic than in other regions. A very large production of dairy and livestock products in the Southern area is also indicated by the available data. However, some of the figures at hand for the South Atlantic States probably are less representative than the data available for the Northern States because of the method of choosing the families studied. Figures from the East South Central region are based almost entirely on family estimates, hence they are less reliable than those from regions where such estimates can be supplemented by detailed records.



FOOD EXPENDITURES OF FARM FAMILIES AS RELATED TO HOME PRODUCTION Yearly per capita average



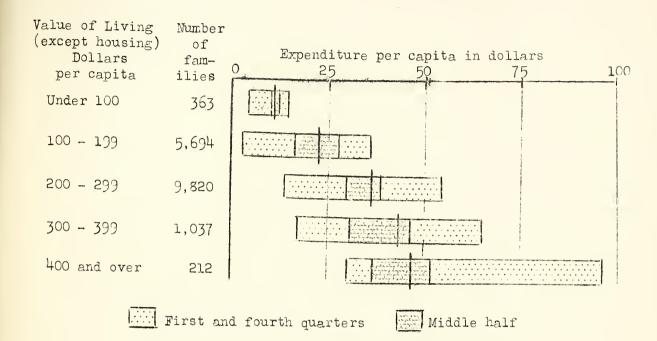
The scope of the home food production program largely determines the amount that farm families spend for food. When much is produced at home -- more than 75 percent of the total food supply -- the yearly expenditure for food per person is small, averaging about \$18 according to the available studies made between 1917 and 1933. When relatively little is home produced -- less than 50 percent -- the amount spent for food averages about \$65 per person per year. The estimated expenditures for food as reported in these studies have been adjusted to September 1935 price levels.

The upper bar in the chart is typical of the figures from the South Atlantic region. The middle bar is close to the average situation in the North. The lower bar represents families in any region whose food production program is not extensive and who therefore buy considerable food.



FARM FAMILY CASH CLOTHING EXPENDITURES

Per capita range, by group averages



This chart is based on studies of expenditures of 17,126 farm families, in 30 states, made during the period 1920-34. Figures show average expenditures of groups of families — not expenditures of individual families, these latter data not being available. Money values have been adjusted to 1935 price levels.

As the per capita money value of living increases in the 5 economic levels shown, there is an upward trend in the amount spent for clothing. At each of these 5 levels of living, there is a wide range in the average per capita clothing expenditures of the different groups. However, when only the middle half of the families are considered (darker sections of the bars) the average per capita expenditures fall within a narrower range. For example, when all families at the highest level of living are included, average per capita clothing expenditures range from \$31 to \$97 per year; but for the middle half of the families, average expenditures fall between \$37 and \$52 per capita per year.

From the lowest to the highest of the above 5 value-of-living groups, the median per capita expenditures made by families were \$10, \$23, \$36, \$44, and \$47, respectively. These figures show an increase in expenditures for clothing as living levels rise.



FARM FAMILY EXPENDITURES FOR CLOTHING Range in percentage, by group averages

Number of fam-	Percentage of total expenditures	
ilies O	10 20 30	40
371		
5,422		
9,139		de description de ces plates selvens
829		
102		
	of fam- ilies 0 371 5,422 9,139	of fam- Percentage of total expenditures ilies 0 10 20 30 371 5,422 9,139 829

First and fourth quarters Middle half

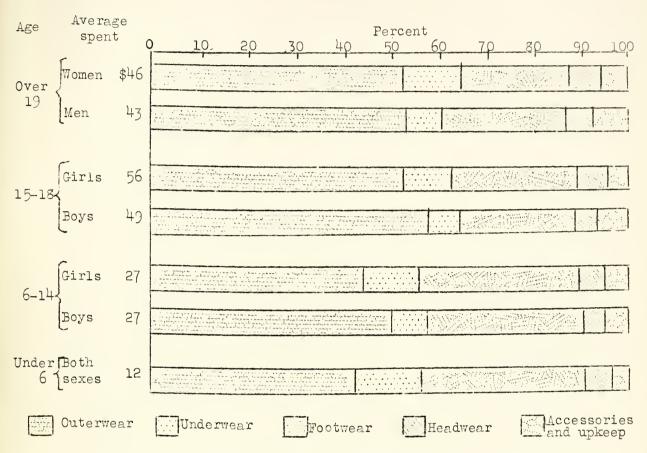
This chart is based on studies of expenditures of 15,863 farm families in 30 states made during the period 1920-34. Figures show percentage of total expenditures allotted to clothing by groups of families -- not by individual families, these latter data not being available. Money values have been adjusted to 1935 price levels.

As the per capita money value of living increases in the 5 economic levels snown, there is a downward trend in the percentage of total expenditures allotted to clothing. At each of these 5 levels of living there is a wide range in the average percentages spent for clothing by the different groups. However, when only the middle half of the families are considered (darker sections of the bars) the range is considerably narrowed. For example, averages for all family groups in the highest of these levels of living show clothing expenditures ranging from 6 to 26 percent of the total, but averages for the middle half of these families are between 12 and 15 percent.

From the lowest to the highest of the above 5 value-of-living groups, the median percentages allotted to clothing were 29, 23, 22, 19, and 13 percent, respectively. These figures show a decreasing prominence of clothing in expenditures as living levels rise.



RELATIVE EXPENDITURES FOR CLOTHING ITEMS BY FARM FAMILY MEMBERS



The data on which this chart is based were taken from studies of farm family living made between 1920 and 1934. The money values have been adjusted to the June 1935 price level.

The bars for the several age and sex groups show the percentage distribution of expenditures for various items of clothing and its upkeep. While the average dollar expenditures (June 1935 price level) differ widely from group to group, being \$12 for children under six and \$56 for girls of high school age, the differences in percentage expenditures are much less marked.

Outerwear takes about half of the clothing money, from 53 to 58 percent of the total for persons 15 years of age and over, and from 43 to 50 percent for children under 15. Footwear takes about one fourth of the clothing money for persons 15 or over, but increases to about one third for children under 15. The percentage spent by women and girls for underwear is more than half again as much as that spent by men and boys in the same age groups. Women and girls spend relatively more for hats but less for accessories and upkeep than do men and boys.



FARM FAMILY CASH CLOTHING EXPENDITURES Per capita range, by group averages

	Number	Median	Range of average per capita expenditures by-		
Value of living (except housing)	of families	per capita expenditure	Middle half of families	All groups of families	
Dollars per capita Under \$100 \$100 - 199 200 - 299 300 - 399 400 and over	363 5,694 9,820 1,037 212	\$10 23 36 44 46	\$10 - 12 17 - 28 30 - 38 32 - 46 37 - 52	\$ 5 - 14 3 - 36 15 - 55 18 - 65 31 - 97	

FARM FAMILY EXPENDITURES FOR CLOTHING Range in percentage, by group averages

Value of living (except housing)	·	Proportion of total expenditures allotted to clothing			
	Number of families	Median	Range of average percentages expended by-		
		percentage	Middle half of families	All groups of families	
Dollars per capita					
Under \$100 \$100 - 199 200 - 299 300 - 399 400 and over	Jnder \$100 371 \$100 - 199 5,422 200 - 299 9,139 300 - 399 829		26 - 29 19 - 29 18 - 26 13 - 26 12 - 15	21 - 30 7 - 36 12 - 37 8 - 29 6 - 26	

The two tables above are based upon studies of expenditures of more than 15 thousand farm families in 30 states, made during the period 1920-34. Figures show average expenditures of groups of families — not expenditures of individual families, these latter data not being available. Money values have been adjusted to 1935 price levels.

These tables present data shown in charts having corresponding headings.



CASH CLOTHING EXPENDITURES OF FARM FAMILY MEMBERS Classified by age, sex, and marital status

Age, sex, and marital status		Number	Median of average	Range of averag	ge expenditures
		of group averages	group expend- itures	Middle half of groups	All groups
All	Wives	62	\$37	\$29 - 49	\$ 7 - 83
	Husbands	62	28	22 - 36	7 - 74
19-25	Single women	38	54	40 - 68	8 –126
	Single men	41	48	41 - 61	15 – 81
15-18	Girls	51 <u>.</u>	50	42 - 64	10 -118
	Boys	42	36	29 - 48	13 - 61
6-14	Girls	93	22	17 - 30	3 - 57
	Boys	100	23	17 - 27	2 - 46
Under 6	Girls	77	12	9 - 14	5 - 28
	Boys	79	12	10 - 15	3 - 34

RELATIVE EXPENDITURES FOR CLOTHING ITEMS BY FARM FAMILY MEMBERS* Classified by age and sex

		Average	Percentage allotted to -					
Age and sex	Number of persons	total clothing expend- itures	Outer- wear	Under- wear	Foot- wear	Head- wear	Acces- sories and upkeep	
Over 19 Women	3,379	\$46	53	11	23	7	6	
Men	3,303	43	53	7	26	6	8	
15-18 Girls	426	56	53	10	26	6	5	
Boys	510	49	58	6	24	5	7	
6-14 Girls	1,352	27	44	12	33	6	5	
Boys	1,345	27	50	7	33	5	5	
Under 6 Both sexes	1,192	12	43	14	35	5	3	

^{*}This table presents data shown in chart having corresponding heading.

The two tables above are based upon studies of farm-family living made between 1920 and 1934.

Data presented are based upon averages of clothing expenditures of groups of families and groups of individuals -- not upon expenditures of ungrouped families and individuals, these latter data not being available.

Money values have been adjusted to 1935 price levels.



PURCHASES OF FIVE ITEMS OF CLOTHING BY FARM OPERATORS 48 Illinois farm families, 1934

Purchases of All Operators

		172	17		Taran - 10 d i + 1	
	Number	Range in	Range in	1	Expenditures during	
	of	number of	per i	tem	yea	r
	opera-	items pur-			Average	Range of ex-
Item	tors	chased by	477	Middle	for	penditures
	making	middle	All	half of	all	by
	some	half of	purchases	purchases	opera-	middle half
	purchases op		erators		tors	of operators
Shirts	43	3 - 5	\$0.39-2.57	\$0.69-1.00	\$3.89	\$2.01-5.24
Overalls,pair	35	1 - 2		1.00-1.50	1	.00-3.07
Shoes, pair	39	1 - 2	.79-6.50	2.25-4.00	4.03	1.95-6.00
Oversnoes, pair	Oversnoes, pair 16		.80-3.35	1.32-2.29	.71	.00-1.32
Hats	31	0 - 1	.15-6.50	-	3	.00-2.00

Purchases of operators, classified by average clothing expenditures

Item	purchase	mber <u>l</u> /of d during s <u>2</u> / spend	year by	Range in price of middle half 3/ of items purchased by operators spending-		
	Under	\$20.00-	\$40.00-	Under	\$20.00-	\$40.00-
	\$20.00	39.99	89.99	\$20.00	39.99	89.99
Shirts	2	3	5	\$0.50-0.80	\$0.70-1.00	\$0.69-1.55
Overalls, pair	1 or 2	2	0	.93-1.49	1.05-1.50	1.05-2.01
Shoes, pair	1	1	2	2.02-3.00	2.64-4.04	2.49-4.12
Overshoes, pair	0	0	0	.80-2.98	1.32-2.29	1.52-2.10
Hats	1	1	1	.50-1.00	.50-2.00	.75-5.00

^{1/} Modal number refers to the number most usually purchased. The same number of operators purchased 1 pair of overalls as purchased 2 pairs.

Summary prepared by Bureau of Home Economics, U. S. Department of Agriculture, using data from home accounts kept as part of State account project under the supervision of Ruth Crawford Freeman, State Extension Specialist in Home Accounts, Illinois.

^{2/} Number of operators in each of the 3 clothing expenditure classes: 14 operators had average yearly expenditures of under \$20; 27, from \$20 to \$40; and 7, from \$40 to \$90 per year. Expenditures for clothing during the 3 years, 1932-34 were averaged in making this classification.

Z/ Complete range given for overshoes in 2 classification groups under \$20; and \$40-89.99, due to small number of cases.



PURCHASES OF FIVE ITEMS OF CLOTHING BY FARM HOMEMAKERS 48 Illinois farm families, 1934

Purchases	of	A17	Homer	akers

1 41 41 41 41 41 41 41 41 41 41 41 41 41									
	Number of home-	Range in number of items	Range i r price per		Expenditures during year				
Item	makers making some pur- chases	purchased by middle half of home- makers		Middle helf	Average for all home- makers				
Dresses Hats Shoes, pair Hose, pair Corsets and girdles	47 38 47 48 28	4 - 6 1 - 2 2 - 3 3 - 5 0 - 1	\$0.24-19.95 .25- 5.10 1.00- 8.16 .09- 1.33	1.02-2.52 2.49-4.03 .3079	2.92 6.98 2.55	.88- 4.00 4.59- 8.52 1.60- 3.14			

Purchases of Farm Homemakers, Classified by average yearly clothing expenditures

T.b	of it	ems pur	number i chased spending	by	Range in price of middle half of items purchased by homemakers spending- $2/$			
Item	Under \$20	\$20- 39.99	\$40- 59•99	\$60 and over	Under \$20	\$20- 39•99	\$40- 59.99	\$60 end over
Dresses . Hats Shoes Hose Corsets and	4 0,1,2 2 2	3 1 2 3,5	4,5,6,9 2 2 3	9-17 3- 4 2- 4 3- 6			1.98-2.54 3.00-4.95	2.98-4.05 2.95-5.00
girdles	0	1	1	1	1.50-1.85	.70-2.98	2.70-4.45	5.10-6.53

^{1/} Modal number refers to the most usual number purchased. An equal number of homemakers spending under \$20 purchased no hats, 1 hat, and 2 hats during the year and of the homemakers spending \$20 to \$40, the same number purchased 3 as 5 pairs of hose. The range in number of items purchased has been entered for the 2 women spending over \$60 per year.

Surmary prepared by Bureau of Home Economics, U. S. Department of Agriculture, using data from home accounts kept as part of State Account Project under the supervision of Ruth Crawford Freeman, State Extension Specialist in Home Accounts, Illinois. (655)a

^{2/} Homemakers classified by average expenditure for clothing during 3 years 1932-34: 12 spent under \$20; 24, from \$20 to \$40; 10, from \$40 to \$60; and 2 spent over \$60 per year.



PURCHASES OF SHOES AND HOSE BY FARM CHILDREN OF GRADE SCHOOL AGE 48 Illinois farm families, 1934

Purchases of All Children

1 GLORINGO OL MIL CHILLETON								
	of	Range in number	Range i per i	-	Expenditures during year			
Item	making some pur-	of items purchased by middle half of operators		Middle half	Average for all children	Range of expenditures per item of middle half of children		
Girls Shoes,pair Hose, pair Boys	18 19	3 5-7	\$.46-4.00 .09-1.00	\$1.83-3.00 .1547		\$5.55-8.94 1.05-2.34		
Snoes, pair Hose, pair	3 0 29	1-2 2-5	.39-4.33 .0975	1.52-2.70 .1625		2.50-5.33 .40-1.16		

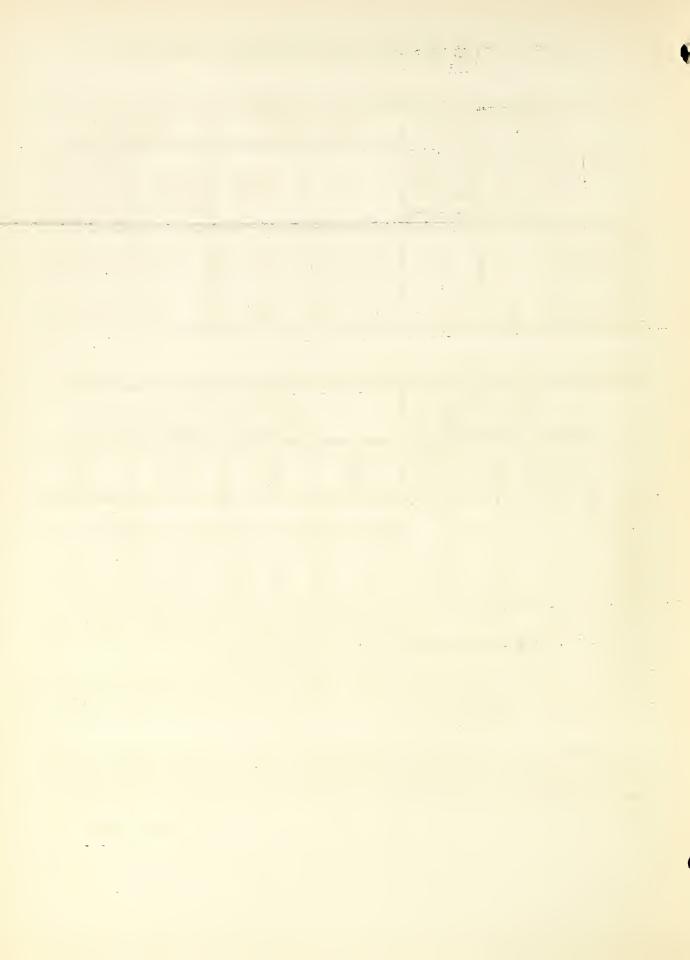
Purchases of Farm Children Classified by Yearly Expenditure for Clothing

T+ am	Modal number $\frac{1}{2}$ of items purchased by children spending $-\frac{2}{2}$				Range in price of middle half of items purchased by children spending- 2/			
Item	Under \$15	\$15- 24.99	\$25- 34.99	\$35 and over	Under \$15	\$15- 24.99	\$25- 34•99	\$35 and over
Shoes Girls Boys Hose	3 3	2,3	4,6 3	3 -	\$1.00-3.04 1.40-2.95	\$2.00-2.85 1.69-2.54	\$2.40-2.95 2.02-2.70	\$2.37-2.95
Girls Boys	6 1	5 4	4,7 3	5–12 –	.1225 .1625	.1530 .1625	.2550 .1825	.6579

^{1/} Modal number refers to the most usual number purchased. Where there are only 2 persons, as for girls \$25-34.99 the number for each is given. The range is given for 3 girls in the \$35 and over group.

Summary prepared by Bureau of Home Economics, U. S. Department of Agriculture, using data from home accounts kept as part of State Account Project under the supervision of Ruth Crawford Freeman, State Extension Specialist in Home Accounts, Illinois.

^{2/} Girls and boys classified by average expenditure for clothing during three years, 1932-34: 7 girls spent under \$15; 7, from \$15 to \$25; 2, from \$25 to \$35; 3, over \$35 per year; 9 boys spent under \$15; 19, from \$15 to \$25; and 5, from \$25 to \$35 per year.



CLOTHING EXPENDITURES: PERCENTAGE DISTRIBUTION BY ITEMS ILLINOIS FARM FAMILIES

(Discussion of following tables, which are based upon a small number of cases, hence figures are only indicative of trends. They will be helpful as a guide in planning budgets, but variations from them should be expected.)

Men and Women

Outer garments (such as coats, suits, and dresses) and headwear take an increasing share of the clothing money of farm operators and homemakers as their clothing expenditures increase; while underwear, footwear, and accessories take a decreasing share. As more money is spent for clothing, the increase goes largely to suits, coats, and dresses. Outerwear expenditures of farm operators increase from 38 percent of total average clothing expenditures of less than \$20, to 55 percent when clothing expenditures are \$40 and over. A similar trend is shown in clothing expenditures of homemakers. Outerwear takes 70 percent of total clothing expenditures when homemakers spend \$60 and over.

The percentage spent for underwear, footwear, and accessories declined as total clothing expenditures increased. Footwear for men declined from 35 percent of total clothing expenditures of \$20, to 18 percent when \$40 and over was spent. A similar decline was evident for women. This indicates that although the demand for shoes and underwear is great enough to require a substantial share of even a low clothing budget, the demand for additional and more expensive footwear and underwear is not so great as is the demand for additional outerwear, when more money is available. Regard for appearances doubtless is largely responsible for the increased importance of outerwear, but comfort (as greater warmth) probably is an important factor, too.

Children

Children's clothing icllows somewhat the same trend as that for adults. Outerwear claims an increasing proportion of the clothing fund for both boys and girls, as expenditures increase.

Boys! shoes take a proportion almost equal to that taken by outerwear when the average clothing expenditure is under \$15. As clothing expenditures increase, however, the proportion spent for shoes decreases. Girls! footwear seems to take a larger proportion of clothing expenditures than boys! in low-income families. There is some evidence that girls buy more shoes than boys and that their shoes are more expensive (See table, Purchases of shoes and hose by farm children of grade school age. The small number of cases should be noted in evaluating these data.)

Girls' undergarments take relatively more of the total clothing expenditures than do boys. The proportion spent by girls for underwear tends to decrease as clothing expenditures increase. Boys' headwear takes the same proportion of the clothing money in the three expenditure groups; but girls' headwear takes an increasing proportion as clothing expenditures rise.

(For number of cases in each expenditure group, see footnotes on tables showing purchases of clothing items for operators, homemakers, and children.)
(660)



CLOTHING EXPENDITURES: PERCENTAGE DISTRIBUTION BY ITEMS 50 Illinois Farm families

	Percentage spent			Percentage spent			
	for various items			for various items			
	by husbands whose by wives we annual clothing annual clot			es whose	Э		
03 - +1- · · · · ·							
Clothing Items	expenditures were-			expenditures1/were-			
	Less	\$20	\$40	Less	\$20	\$40	\$60
	than	to	and	than	to	to	and
	\$20	39.99	over	\$20	39.99	59.99	
Outerwear					22.22		
Overcoats, raincoats,							
jackets and sweaters	5	9	15	6	10	18	16
Suits and trousers			15	O	1 9	10	70
Dresses and aprons	11	30	28		-		
Overalls	10	7	<u> </u>	33	29	34	54
Shirts	12	11	8	_	_	_	
Subtotal	38	57	55	39	48	52	70
Undergarments, etc.					70		
Underwear	10	7	14	7	7	6	2
Corsets and girdles		_	_	2	4	7	7
Sleeping garments	2	1	1	1	1	1	3 1
			1	1	1	1	
Subtotal	12	8	55	10	12	14	6
Footwear							
Shoes, and repairs,							
overshoes	30	18	15	28	20	1.7	10
Hose	5	3	3	8	g	6	2
							-
Subtotal	35	21	18	36	28	23	12
Headwear	4	5	g	9	7	7	g
Accessories and upkeep							
Gloves	7	4	4	2	2	1	2
Other accessories	2	2	4	1	2	2	1
Repairs and dry cleaning		3	6	3	1	1	1
							
Subtotal	11	9	14	6	5	4	4
Grand total	100	100	100	100	100	100	100

^{1/} Average annual expenditures for a 3-year period, 1932-34.

Data from home accounts kept as part of a State account project, under the supervision of Ruth Crawford Freeman, State Extension Specialist in Home Accounts, Illinois.

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CLOTHING EXPENDITURES: PERCENTAGE DISTRIBUTION BY ITEMS
Grade school age boys and girls of Illinois account-keeping families

		granden and a large desired a tra					
Clothing Items	Percentage spent for various items for boys 6 through 13 years whose clothing costs were- 1/			various items for girls 6 through 13			
	Less than \$15	\$15 to 24.99	\$25 to 34.99	Less than \$15	\$15 to 24.99	\$25 to 34.99	\$35 and over
Outerwear							
Overcoats raincoats, jackets and sweaters Suits and trousers Dresses Overalls Shirts	8 12 - 11 10	11 19 - 10 9	1½ 26 10	9 - 19 - -	10' - 29 - -	21 - 20 -	21 - 34 - -
Subtota1	71.7	49	56	28	39	141	55
Undergarments, etc. Underwear Girdles Sleeping garments	5	5 - 1	5 - 2	9 - 2	9	9 - 2	5 2 2
Subtotal	6	6	77	1.1	13	11	9
Footwear Snoes, and repairs, overshoes Hose	35 5	31 5	25 3	41 10	3 ¹ 4	36 5	20
Subtotal	7.0	= 5	28		140	41	28
Headwear	3	3	3	3	4	5	5
Accessories Gloves Other accessories Dry cleaning and repairs	2 25	2 1 3	2 22	3 3	2	1 1 -	1 1
Subtotal	10	6	6	7	j	2	3
Grand total	1.00	100	100	100	100	100	100

^{1/} Average annual expenditures for a 3-year period, 1932-34.

Prepared by Ruth Crawford Freeman, Specialist in Home Accounts, Illinois.



DEVELOPMENTS LEADING TOWARD IMPROVED FARM HOUSING

Research on Farm Housing Standards Summary of talk by Maud Wilson, Oregon

Standards which concern the use-requirements of the farm house need emphasis. To develop standards it is necessary to determine what the different housing facilities contribute to family life. It is important also to make careful estimates of the cost of specific features of a farm house in order to balance money costs and time-and-energy costs against human values. Standards such as those for dimensions and qualities of materials found desirable in house construction are being (and should be) listed in terms usable by builders. For example, data on storage requirements obtained from homemakers are being used by builders in developing designs for useful types of cabinets or closets.

Much-needed research on farm housing needs and standards is under way. This investigation shows that standards vary widely from one section of the country to another. For example, a separate room for laundry work or home canning or both is considered highly desirable in one section, while reports from other sections allot these tasks to the kitchen. Knowing why these differences exist is important.

Standards for farm homes should be based upon requirements of family living. The concept that the house desirable is the house useful should be emphasized. Precision in defining use-requirements may help to lower housing costs by standardizing construction and taking advantage of mass production economies. It is desirable to discard features that have no utilitarian purpose though they have been traditionally included in houses. The house is a machine for living, and should be built for this purpose rather than with the idea of impressing neighbors.

Outlook for Improving Farm Homes Summary of paper by S. P. Lyle, Extension Service, U.S.D.A.

An increase in building and improving farm homes may be expected in 1936, made possible by the anticipated increase in agricultural income. This follows a trend for increased rural housing construction begun in 1933-34, and is in line with the increase of 160 percent in residential building in cities during the first 8 months of 1935 as compared with 1934.

Interest in remodeling and improvement has been developed by the Federal Housing Administration and by rural electrification promotion. Other factors favorable to increased activity in this field are improved credit facilities, continuing stability of the price level of building materials, and only a moderate farm wage rate increase.

No change is expected in prices of building materials in 1936 desoite increasing sales. Building costs may be slightly higher due to higher labor costs; but they probably will not increase as much as farm income.

The construction and remodeling of <u>service buildings</u> may be expected to continue in 1936, though conditions are more favorable to <u>home improvements</u>. Construction of service buildings is influenced largely by volume of production; nome remodeling is more dependent on increased income.



Developments Leading Toward Improved Farm Housing (continued)

Outlook for Increased Rural Electrification
Summary of talk by Boyd Fisher, Rural Electrification Administration

The possibility of extending electricity to farm homes depends upon the quantity used by each consumer, which in turn depends upon the returns it yields not only in comfort and pleasure but also in production uses. The farm consumer will use electricity in proportion to the extent that the cost of installation and of current can be justified by increase in value received from its use. For example, electricity can be used on the poultry farm to increase egg production, on the dairy farm to reduce labor costs, in refrigeration of food to decrease spoilage. Not all farmers are aware of the value of electricity in increased production.

At present between 10 and 15 percent of farm homes (750,000 out of 6,300,000), and 60 percent of rural nonfarm homes are electrified, as compared with 90 percent of farm homes in Japan. The lag in the United States has been due to the excessive cost to the farmers, who, bargaining individually with utility companies, have paid dearly for installation and service. Extension of electrification depends upon getting current inexpensively to areas not served at present. The companies claim that farmers are slow to avail themselves of facilities, and that those who have made connections with main lines are so scattered and use so little current that costs must remain high.

In attempting to encourage the greater use of electricity on farms, the Rural Electrification Administration is extending the amortization period on loans for electrification, is keeping interest rates low, and is encouraging the manufacture of standardized low-cost electrical units. It is lending money to selected communities on a 20-year basis at 3 percent for extension of rural lines by privately-owned and municipally-owned companies, and by farm cooperatives. Farm organizations in the Shenandoah Valley have formed cooperatives to provide electricity. In considering the problem of under-consumption, the R.E.A. estimates that efficient use in rural areas demands 100 k.w. hours per family per month. A progressive farm community near Hastings, Nebraska, uses 60 to 65 k.w. hours per rural family per month.

Planning Farm Family Finances to Meet Electrification Costs Surmary of talk by Thelma Beall, Ohio

In determining how usual consumption ways may be changed to furnish funds for electrification, the farm family will be helped by a record of its year's income and expenditures. Advantages of electricity should be compared with advantages of possible alternative expenditures. Electrification costs will be offset in part at least by savings effected in household and farm business costs. Families may find that willingness to increase home production, to barter, to buy cooperatively, etc., will help meet costs of electrification. Having decided in favor of electrification, the family should study relative costs of various ways of financing the purchase of appliances.



CHANGES IN "OTHER" FAMILY EXPENDITURES

Nebraska Farm Families: 1929-34

Year	Per capita	Expenditures per capita in dollars	
	(adjusted)	0 10 20 30 40	_50
1929	\$40		'
1930	45		
1931	34		
1932	28		
1933	31		
1934	38		
	Education	Health Recreation Church, gifts, etc.	

Changes in expenditures for health, education, recreation, and church and charities made by groups of Nebraska farm families during the years 1929-34 are presented, based on data collected by Muriel Smith and published in Nebraska Extension Circular 11-113. The value of the average expenditures for "other" items each year has been adjusted to 1934 prices in order to make expenditures for the 6 years comparable.

The average percentage of "other" expenditures allotted each year to education, recreation, medical care, and gifts, is shown by the four divisions of the bar for that year. For example, average expenditures for education which were 19 percent of the total "other" expenditures in 1929, are shown as 19 percent of the 1929 bar.

The 1930 adjusted figures of expenditures for "other" goods and services were higher than in 1929, even though total expenditures for family living fell. (See previous chart.) This 1930 increase in "other" expenditures was chiefly in the amount given to church and charity. From 1930 to 1932, the value of "other" expenditures fell relatively more than did total expenditures, 38 percent as compared with 29 percent. Expenditures for recreation showed the greatest decline, being cut more than one half; medical care, education, and gifts were cut one fourth to one third.

In 1934, "other" expenditures were 36 percent higher than in 1932, while total expenditures for family living were only 13 percent higher. Expenditures for education, recreation, and medical care increased relatively more in this 2-year period than did expenditures for church and charity.



How can the farm homemaker use her time most effectively? Any attempt to answer this question leads to a philosophical discussion of what is worth while. What are one's values of life and their relative importance? How important is money? Recent years have pointed out both its tragic importance and its relative unimportance. How important is work? Is hard work the virtue that we once thought? How important is recreation? What is it, and how much should we have? Is it more important than we used to believe? Are health problems, including nervous disorders, which are piling up costs to individuals and society related to unwise use of time in work and leisure? What can the homemaker do about these problems?

Occasionally the farm homemaker asks herself whether her days are always to be filled with cooking, sewing, washing, ironing, cleaning, making beds. What else is there in life? If it is true that our greatest chance for happiness lies in human relationships, largely in the family, are there ways of improving these relationships? Is time a factor?

A number of attempts have been made to state what every human being should have, over and above his basic physical necessities. It has been said that everyone needs "work, play, love, and worship in suitable proportions." Then there are the famous four wishes of W. I. Thomas: "Recognition, response, security, new experience." In what ways is achievement of these goals related to ways time is spent?

Considerations such as these, raised by Miss Bane, are fundamental in deciding what is wise use of a homemaker's time. Each homemaker's decisions must be based upon her philosophy of life and her values, as well as upon her resources of money and energy and upon the situation in which she finds herself. Sociology and psychology, as well as family economics, should help her answer these questions.

Since this conference dealt with economic problems of farm families, the relationship between the homemaker's use of time and the family income (both real and money) was emphasized. After the fundamental questions of human values had been raised, attention was centered on that part of the homemaker's day which remains after the usual household tasks have been performed. Obviously this fraction of the day will decrease as outside demands grow larger and will increase as routine household tasks are kept within bounds.

In using time to increase family income (real and money), the farm homemaker faces several alternatives, among which these are important:

Increasing household production of goods and services for family use, as producing more food, doing more home canning, making more garments, and thus adding to real income, or goods available for family consumption.

Making goods for sale, such as handicraft articles, jellies, and cakes, and processing foods to make them more salable and more profitable, as dressing chickens.

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How Can the Farm Homemaker Use Her Time Most Effectively? (continued)

Participating in the farm business by keeping the farm accounts, selling farm produce at roadside stands or retail markets, assuming responsibility for certain phases of the farm business.

Increasing real income by production of food for family use is commonly expected of the farm homemaker. Such food production takes a generous share of her time as is shown by data from a South Carolina study. (See chart, "Time spent by farm families in food activities.") In regions where the greater part of the food supply is home produced, outside activities such as gardening and churning may increase the total time spent in food tasks by one half or more. The amount of time spent in household food tasks depends upon the type of monu served, as well as the size of the family. (See chart, "Time spent by farm families in household food tasks.")

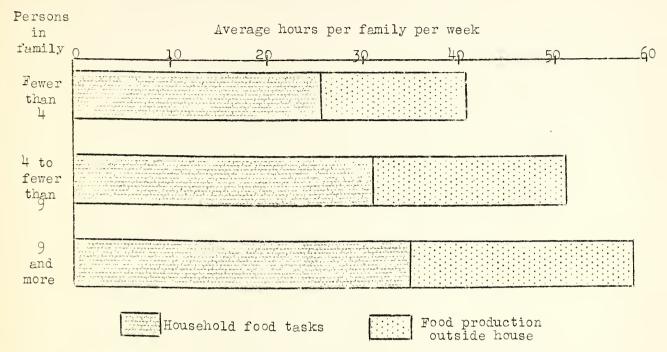
Homemakers in farm families whose eash income is inadequate for maintaining a satisfactory level of living will need guidance as to the most immediately profitable use of their "free" time. Reports of extension leaders on earnings from sales of home-processed food and handieraft articles should help them determine probable returns from work. A study made by the Women's Bureau of the U.S. Department of Labor indicates however that there are many unsolved problems in the making and marketing of handicraft articles. (See "Potential earning power of Southern mountaineer handieraft," by Bertha M. Nienberg, Bulletin of the Women's Bureau No. 128.) The dangers of exploiting women who make handieraft articles in their homes should be recognized and avoided.

Participation in the farm business may increase farm eash income. Thus the homemaker may assume responsibility not only for marketing cass but also for improving their quality. For instance, it is claimed by a well-known agricultural economist that the farm homemaker can add more to the farm income by wise management of egg production, raising eggs from grade C to grade A, than she can by making hooked rugs for sale. However, the homemaker's satisfactions from such use of time depend somewhat upon type of family organization and upon family practices regarding control of money. In a patriarchal type of family, the homemaker who keeps the farm accounts may have less feeling of satisfaction in achievement and less control of money to spend than she would if she made and sold cakes.

Homemakers whose incomes are sufficiently generous that cash increases are not essential for health or comfort will find it well worth their while to take a long-time view of the situation and to consider returns in personal satisfactions as well as in money from use of "free" time. All homemakers, however, should weigh the use of their time spent in increasing income against other demands on their time, energy, and strength.



TIME SPENT BY FARM FAMILIES IN FOOD ACTIVITIES



This chart is based on data / on use of time for food tasks by 115 white farm families living in the South Carolina Piedmont and producing about 83 percent of their food supply. The bars show the average number of hours per week spent in food tasks by farm families, classified by number in family into 3 groups. As might be expected, the number of hours spent increased with the size of the family.

The total amount of time spent by each group is divided into 2 periods:

(1) time spent in household food work, such as preparation and serving of meals, clearing away, baking, and food preservation; and (2) time spent in work outside the house in food production for home use, such as gardening, poultry-raising, pork production, and churning. Total time for food tasks increased with the size of the family. But the proportion devoted to work outside the house remained about the same for all groups, ranging from 37 percent in families of fewer than 4 to 40 percent in families of 9 and more.

These figures are for <u>all</u> white families studied; the data in the Farm Family Living Outlook Report refer to a smaller group selected on the basis of similar money values of total food supply.

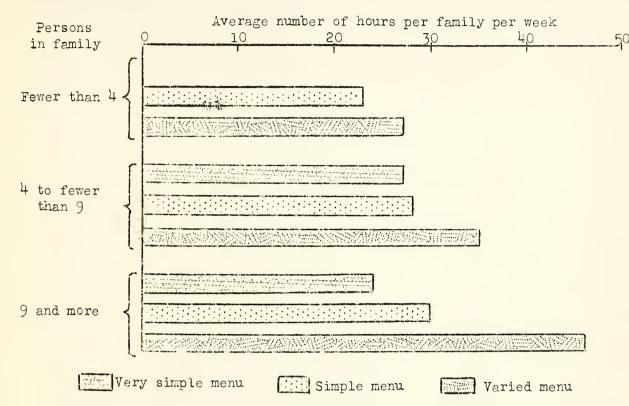
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^{1/} Ada M. Moser. Food consumption and use of time for food work among farm families in the South Carolina Piedmont. Clemson Agr. Coll. S. C. Agr. Expt. Sta. Bull. 300. Clemson, 1935.



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TIME SPENT BY FARM FAMILIES IN HOUSEHOLD, TASKS



This chart is based on data for use of time for household food tasks by 115 white farm families in the South Carolina Piedmont. The average number of hours per week spent by families in their household food tasks (including preparation and serving of meals, clearing away, baking, etc., but excluding food preservation) is shown in relation to size of family and type of meals served. The top bar in each set of three represents hours per week spent by families serving very simple menus; no families of fewer than 4 members reported meals of this type. The middle bar shows hours spent by families serving simple menus; and the bottom bar, hours spent by families serving varied menus.

The comparison suggests that type of menu is fully as important a factor in determining amount of time spent in household food tasks as size of family. For example, families of 9 and more serving very simple menus spent fewer hours than smaller families serving varied menus.

^{1/} Ada M. Moser. Food consumption and use of time for food work among farm families in the South Carolina Piedmont. Clemson Agr. Coll. S. C. Agr. Expt. Sta. Eull. 300. Clemson, 1935.

